

## Academic Milestones for Graduate Students in the Department of Geological Sciences

<b>Milestones for M.S.</b>	<b>Time Limit</b>
Approved Advisory Committee	Two semesters
Approved Thesis Proposal	Two semesters
Complete Required Courses & Credits	Before graduation
Six Credits MS Thesis	Before graduation
Defend Thesis	Four semesters
Graduate	Four semesters
<b>Milestones for Ph.D. with M.S.</b>	<b>Time Limit</b>
Approved Advisory Committee	Three semesters
Approved Dissertation Proposal	Before fifth semester
Pass Qualifying Exam (both written and oral)	Before fifth semester
Complete Required Courses and Credits	Before graduation
Nine Credits Ph.D. Dissertation	Before graduation
Defend Dissertation	Eight semesters
Graduate	Eight semesters
<b>Milestones for Ph.D. without M.S. (For students admitted directly into a Ph.D. program)</b>	<b>Time Limit</b>
Approved Advisory Committee	Three semesters
Approved Dissertation Proposal	Before fifth semester
Pass Qualifying Exam (both written and oral)	Before fifth semester
Complete Required Courses and Credits	Before graduation
Nine Credits Ph.D. Dissertation	Before graduation
Defend Dissertation	Ten semesters
Graduate	Ten semesters
<b>Milestones for Ph.D. with M.S. Bypass (students admitted to a M.S. program who are bypassing the M.S. degree)</b>	<b>Time Limit</b>
Approved M.S. Advisory Committee	Two semesters
Approved Bypass Petition	Three semesters
Approved Ph.D. Advisory Committee	Three semesters
Approval of Ph.D. Dissertation Proposal	Before fifth semester
Pass Qualifying Exam (both written and oral)	Before fifth semester
Complete Required Courses and Credits	Before graduation
Nine Credits Ph.D. Dissertation	Before graduation
Defend Dissertation	Ten semesters
Graduate	Ten semesters

**Milestones for all degrees** - committee meeting and progress form approved annually