Requirements for Degree and Suggested Timeline

B.S. to M.S

Funding: Funded M.S. students in good standing should expect continued funding for two (2) years; support for the 5th semester is not certain; support beyond the 5th semester will not generally be endorsed by the Graduate Committee or Department.

1. Course and Credit-hour Requirements

   • 30 cr. hr. total (Plan I); 34 cr. hr. total (Plan II).
     -- no more than 12 cr. hr. at 500 level.
     -- at least 18 cr. hr. at 600 level or above (Biol. 691 hours don't count).
     -- at least 10 cr. hr. of formal, letter graded, lecture/exam course work.

   • Specific coursework required.
     -- 3-6 cr. hr. Biol. 699 (once started continuous registration, except non-credit hour summers, until degree completed) - Plan I only (Biol. 691 hours don't count).
     -- Grad. 600 Workshop Instr. Higher Ed. (GradSTEP).
     -- Biol. 602 Biodocumentation II (Plan II only).
     -- Biol. 781 Department Seminar (at least 1 cr. hr.).
     -- deficiencies in calculus / organic chemistry with lab, if not taken as undergraduate (finish by end of first calendar year).

2. Maintain Grade Point Average of 3.0 or above (at all times -- failure here will put you on probation for a semester and if not at 3.0 or above at the end of probationary semester -- you're out).

3. Tentative Degree Program (filed no later than end of second semester; 780's can be lumped together; 783's can be lumped together; 699's lumped together at 3-6 cr. hrs.)

4. Research Proposal (3-5 page, typed proposal submitted to student's advisory committee one week before proposal meeting) (Plan I only).

5. Research Proposal Meeting and Topic Approval (by end of second semester) (Plan I only).

6. Preliminary draft of thesis to committee (at least one week before defense) (Plan I only).

7. Thesis Defense (at least five weeks before graduation; must be announced to faculty at least one week before defense date) (Plan I only).

8. Comprehensive Exam (at least 3-4 weeks before graduation) (Plan II only).

9. Error-free copy of thesis to Graduate College (Plan I - check calendar for deadline).

10. Exit interview/form completed and turned to Graduate Coordinator before leaving campus.