

Progress Toward M.S. Thesis Degree: Degree Requirements and Timeline
Degree Requirements

Credits:	Complete 30 credit hours beyond the bachelor's degree.
Credits:	Of the 30 credit hours, complete 24 credit hours in letter-graded courses.
Credits:	Of the 30 credit hours, complete 15 in graduate-level SWSD letter-graded courses.
Credits:	Complete 1 credit hour of SWS 6931 (Seminar).
Credits:	Complete 1 credit hour of SWS 6940 (Supervised Teaching) or 1 credit hour of SWS 6910 that culminates in an extension/service product to meet the professional development teaching/service requirement.
Credits:	Complete SWS 5050 (unless at least a senior-level undergraduate course in introductory soil science was completed).
GPA:	Overall and major GPA must be at least 3.0.
Date:	Complete all course requirements within the 7 years immediately preceding the degree award date.
Date:	Complete a research project (registering for up to 6 credit hours of SWS 6971, Master's Research) culminating in a thesis.
Date:	Present Exit Seminar.
Date:	Successfully pass the final oral or written examination.
Date:	Complete an exit interview with the Department Chair in the last semester.

Timeline
First Semester

Date:	Complete graduate student orientation.
Credits:	Register for courses, starting with foundation courses (SWS 5050; 5000 level first).
Date:	Discuss ideas for research with Major Advisor.
Date:	Develop research proposal under supervision of Major Advisor.
Date:	Develop draft Plan of Study with recommendations by Major Advisor.
Date:	Take initial steps to form Supervisory Committee.
Date:	Complete initial IDP self-assessment.

Second Semester

Credits:	Continue coursework and research.
Date:	Form Supervisory Committee.
Date:	Share Proposed Plan of Study with Supervisory Committee and modify according to committee recommendations.
Date:	Submit approved Proposed Plan of Study form (signed by student and committee members) to Student Services by end of second semester.
Date:	Continue to develop research proposal.
Date:	At end of first year, complete IDP self-assessment. Meet with Major Advisor to discuss IDP and progress. Create IDP action plan. Submit last page of IDP form by end of the second semester.

Second Year (and Later as Appropriate)

Credits:	Continue coursework and research.
Date:	Finalize research proposal and present it to Supervisory Committee (by third semester).
Date:	Meet with Supervisory Committee at least once per year to provide update on research progress and discuss research questions. Refine research based on suggestions.
Date:	Attend workshop or meet with consultant from Graduate School Editorial Office to become familiar with thesis formatting requirements.
Date:	The semester before you plan to graduate, check with Student Services to ensure you have completed all requirements and resolved any issues.
Date:	At end of second year, complete IDP self-assessment and meet with Major Advisor to discuss IDP and progress. Create IDP action plan and submit last page of IDP form by the end of the summer semester.

Final Semester

Date:	Register for the minimum number of hours of SWS 6971, unless you have obtained "cleared prior" status. Students on an assistantship must register for the minimum number of total hours for the semester as required for the assistantship.
Date:	Schedule Exit Seminar with Student Services.
Date:	Fill out an online degree application (through One.UF) and submit it to the Office of the University Registrar by the UF deadline.
Date:	Review the Graduate School Graduation Checklists to ensure you meet all thesis submission requirements and deadlines.
Date:	Present Exit Seminar.
Date:	Schedule the thesis defense/final examination and notify Student Services no later than 10 business days ahead of time . Final Exam Form, ETD Signature Page, and Publishing Agreement forms must be generated in the system for all students, and an announcement of examinations must be made. The examination may not be scheduled earlier than six months before the degree is to be conferred.
Date:	Complete thesis and present it to Supervisory Committee.
Date:	Refine thesis according to suggestions from Supervisory Committee.
Date:	Complete final oral or written exam administered by Supervisory Committee. Any discrepancies between the Proposed and Final Plan of Study forms must be approved by all members of the Supervisory Committee at the defense/final examination before the student may graduate.
Date:	Submit the final revised version of thesis to Supervisory Committee and seek faculty approval (signatures).
Date:	After approval by Supervisory Committee, submit thesis electronically to Graduate School ETD office.

Date:	<p>Submit the following signed forms to Student Services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Plan of Study form • Final Exam Form • ETD Signature Page • Publishing Agreement
Date:	Complete SWS survey form.
Date:	Complete exit interview with Department Chair.
Date:	Return office keys and other related materials to the department / Major Advisor.
Date:	Publish research results jointly with faculty advisors.
Date:	Graduation.