

Degree Requirements

Master of Science in Geosciences, Geography Concentration

Thesis option (36 hours)

Early in their coursework, students must select advisers to direct their programs of study and to appoint their general examination and thesis committees. A timeline is provided in the *Guide to Graduate Studies*.

1. [GEOS 8002](#) (Geoscience Research Methods) to be taken the first time offered after the student's admission to the program.
2. Techniques training equivalent by completion of one of the following courses: [GEOS 6518](#) (Digital Cartography); [GEOS 6530](#) (Introduction to Remote Sensing); [GEOS 6532](#) (Introduction to Geographic Information Systems); [GEOS 6534](#) (Advanced Geographic Information Systems). This course may count toward the departmental minimum credit hour requirements.
3. [GEOS 6515](#) (Qualitative Methods in Geography) or [GEOS 6520](#) (Quantitative Spatial Analysis). This requirement may be waived if student has equivalent training.
4. Six semester hours of coursework at the 8000 level in addition to [GEOS 8002](#).
5. Seminar (1-2 hours) [GEOS 6095](#) Seminar in Geological Sciences
6. Remaining hours in student's area of specialization chosen from graduate level courses.
7. Six semester hours of [GEOS 8999](#) (Thesis Research) for thesis option or three semester hours of [GEOS 8990](#) (Research Practicum) for non-thesis option.
8. Proficiency in a foreign language or in an approved research skill. Courses taken to fulfill this requirement may not count towards the departmental minimum credit hour requirements.
9. Completion of Thesis and pass oral examination of Thesis.

Non-Thesis Option (36 hours)

In addition to the requirements 1-7 above for the thesis option, students taking the non-thesis option must take three additional semester hours of graduate level coursework in lieu of [GEOS 8999](#) and complete a non-thesis research project ([GEOS 8990](#) Research Practicum). Students may attempt to fulfill the practicum requirement twice, but only three semester hours of [GEOS 8990](#) can be counted toward their degree requirements. Students must pass a written comprehensive examination and pass an oral examination of the research project.