Degree Requirements, Geological Sciences

Graduate handbook information is updated and maintained by each program. Graduate handbooks are available within each program’s office and online at https://utexas.box.com/v/UTAustinGraduateHandbooks. Please contact the program with concerns or questions.

All graduate students must take Geological Sciences 398T, Supervised Teaching in Geological Sciences in their first semester.

Master of Science in Geological Sciences

The Master of Science in Geological Sciences requires 30 semester hours of coursework including a six-hour thesis; it is designed for those planning doctoral study or seeking employment in which research and problem-solving skills are essential. A program of work is designed for each student by their committee. Within that design, students must complete a minimum of 24 hours of coursework in Geological Sciences, including a six-hour Master's Thesis (Geological Sciences 698A and Geological Sciences 698B), in addition to six hours of coursework taken outside the major area.

Master of Arts

The Master of Arts degree program requires 30 hours of coursework including a three-hour Master’s Report (Geological Sciences 398R); it is designed for students who wish to enhance their technical education. The program of work for the Master of Arts degree is designed in coordination with the student’s faculty supervisor and requires approval of the graduate advisor.

Doctor of Philosophy

A program of work for the Doctor of Philosophy degree is designed for each student by their committee. Within that design, students must complete 24 hours of formal coursework. A minimum of 15 hours must be taken in the major area for a letter grade. In addition, six hours must be taken outside the major area. All PhD students must earn at least 30 credit hours at The University of Texas at Austin for the degree.