



Curriculum for traditional M.S. degree

Course Requirements

Students are required to complete 30 credit hours of coursework, including 12 credit hours in Biology, and 6 credit hours of masters thesis research. A summary of the requirements is as follows:

30 total credit hours, including all of the following:

- 12 hours in Biology graduate courses, 6000-9000 level
- 5 hours in other Biology courses, 4000 or higher
- 6 hours of M.S. Thesis research
- 2 hours of Biology Seminar
- 2 hours of Tools of Science
- 3 hours of Special Problems – Research

GPA Requirements

To remain in good standing within the program, you must maintain a GPA of 2.7 while making progress toward the degree. The graduate committee reviews the status of each student at least once a year in consultation with the student's advisor and committee. Students who fail to maintain good standing may be dismissed from the program.

Special Problems

A course designed to familiarize students with the research that is being conducted with various faculty in the school through what is called Lab Rotation or Special Problems. Three (3) credit hours of Special Problems is required, and only three credit hours of Special Problems will count toward your degree.

Seminar

Attendance at regular departmental seminars is an important part of your graduate education and should become part of your weekly routine. Students are required to take two, one hour Biology Seminar courses, one hour in the fall and one hour in the spring semesters, where they must regularly attend seminars.



Tools of Science

First year full time traditional M.S. students must register for Tools of Science. This jointly-taught course introduces students to some of the knowledge they'll need as scientists and provides a forum for discussing a variety of concerns and issues that affect all successful scientists and engineers. This course also includes the CETL (Center for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning) 8000 course that contains graduate teaching assistant teaching training. The course meets one afternoon each week.

Thesis and Thesis Defense

Students must submit a well written thesis based on the student's research accomplishments. A defense of the thesis must be made, consisting of a seminar and oral exam.