

Geoscience, MS

Requirements

The Master of Science program in geoscience requires a minimum of 30 s.h. of graduate credit. Students may count up to 8 s.h. of research credit toward the 30 s.h. required for the degree. They must earn at least 24 s.h. toward the degree in University of Iowa courses taken after they enroll in the program. Throughout their graduate study, students must maintain a grade-point average (GPA) of at least 3.00 in all coursework required for their degree and in all graduate-level geoscience coursework. Students whose GPA drops below 3.00 are placed on academic probation.

All entering students are required to enroll in EES:7270 Geologic Orientation, Scholarly Integrity, and Responsible Conduct of Research during the fall semester of their first year in the graduate program. Students also must complete EES:5010 Geoscience Seminar Series each semester until they defend their thesis.

During the second semester of study, each student should propose an advisory committee of at least three faculty members to the department chair for approval. Thesis students are responsible for obtaining their advisory committee's approval of a suitable program of coursework and for satisfactory development of research plans as outlined in a thesis proposal, which should be completed and approved by the department chair before the end of the second semester of full-time study. The thesis typically has depth and breadth similar to those of a published research paper. Thesis students must deliver a half-hour public presentation of their thesis, followed by an oral defense.

Students are encouraged to present their research at local, regional, national, or international meetings. The department provides partial funding for travel to such meetings.

Detailed information about graduate degree requirements and timelines for making satisfactory progress toward a degree is available; see Graduate Student Guidelines on the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences Graduate Program website.