

## GRADUATE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

### Department of Geosciences, MSU

**\*Degree requirements checklist:** (If a category is not required for your program [e.g., BAT is for BMP students only], indicate by filling in NA [not applicable]).

- \_\_\_ 1. BAT (Background Assessment Test)
- \_\_\_ 2. Foreign Language/Statistical Skills Proficiency
  - \_\_\_ FOREIGN LANGUAGE: a 2-semester readings course or equivalent
  - \_\_\_ STATISTICS: GR 6803 or equivalent
- \_\_\_ 3. GR 8542 or GG 8572 Geo Literature
- \_\_\_ 4. Seminar course (GG 8561)
- \_\_\_ 5a. THESIS-TRACK Research Agenda
  - \_\_\_ Thesis Proposal Presentation
  - \_\_\_ Thesis Research (GG 800X, GR 800X hours)
  - \_\_\_ Thesis Defense/Comprehensive Exam
- \_\_\_ 5b. NON-THESIS-TRACK Research Agenda
  - \_\_\_ GR 8993 Research Methods
  - \_\_\_ Comprehensive Exam
- \_\_\_ 6. Complete coursework as outlined in Program of Study

### TIMETABLE (TWO-YEAR PROGRAM)

**First semester:**

- \_\_\_ select major professor
- \_\_\_ select graduate committee
  - \_\_\_ thesis track, or \_\_\_ non-thesis track (see specific guidelines)
- \_\_\_ select general topic for thesis or research area of emphasis (thesis track)
- \_\_\_ initiate background reading for thesis or research area of emphasis (thesis track)
- \_\_\_ semester report due mid-semester (March 20 or October 20)

**Second semester:**

- \_\_\_ enroll in seminar/literature courses and make department presentation
- \_\_\_ write and present thesis proposal (coordinate with major professor as to deadline)
  - or \_\_\_ NON-THESIS: enroll in GR 8993 Research Methods (unless taken 1st semester)
- \_\_\_ semester report due mid-semester (March 20 or October 20)

**Third semester:**

- \_\_\_ continue thesis research & data analysis (thesis track)
- \_\_\_ initiate writing of thesis (thesis track)
- \_\_\_ semester report due mid-semester (March 20 or October 20)

**Fourth semester:**

- \_\_\_ finish requisite coursework
- \_\_\_ complete writing thesis (set target dates with advisor according to Appendix B)
- \_\_\_ thesis defense/oral comprehensive exam
- \_\_\_ make thesis revisions and submit thesis to:
  - \_\_\_ Dean of Arts & Sciences or
  - \_\_\_ NON-THESIS: hold final committee meeting/oral comprehensive exam
- \_\_\_ semester report due mid-semester (March 20 or October 20)
- \_\_\_ graduate!!!