

Fall 2022

## Guidelines for Earning an M.S. Degree in Geology at San José State University

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Four units of Geology 299, Master's Thesis, are required to complete the 30-unit graduate program. Typically, one unit is taken each semester, beginning with the first semester at SJSU, until the requirement is satisfied.

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All graduate students are required to demonstrate their competency in written English as a requirement for graduation. This requirement may be satisfied in one of several ways; the simplest would be by completing Geology 213, 231, 234, or 238. The list of ways for satisfying this requirement can be found here:

<https://catalog.sjsu.edu/content.php?catoid=2&navoid=116#graduation-writing-assessment-requirement>

## 7. ú h \ -

Students entering the M.S. program with a Geology (or equivalent) B.S. are required to take their oral examination in their . Students

moreover, the student must provide a copy of the thesis to the rest of the committee one week before the presentation. Scheduling of the presentation shall be made with the approval of the student's thesis adviser.

## **University**

In addition to the program requirements listed above, the University requires all students to meet specific academic standards. A graduate student must maintain a cumulative grade-point average of 3.0 (B) in all units attempted subsequent to admission. If a student's grade point average falls below 3.0, the student may be placed on probation or disqualified from further enrollment. Once on probation, a student must make progress toward returning to clear status by earning better than a 3.0 grade-point average each semester. Graduate students are eligible to repeat courses with letter grades lower than "B" or with grades of "NC," "WU," or "IC" up to a total of 9 units, no matter how many units there are in the individual degree program. Elective classes already taken in the degree program may be added to the candidacy for

So, what are the steps for completing the program? The typical candidate starts by enrolling in courses. It is important to become acquainted with as many students, faculty members, and activities as possible. Students are the most important source of information on matters of survival in the system. Most of the specific procedures involved in obtaining a degree are worked out in coordination with the thesis adviser so meet with them early and as often as necessary.

As one might imagine, there are forms that need to be submitted at various times. These and other formal steps are summarized here in roughly the order in which they are encountered by a typical student.

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Registration for classes at San Jose State University is done online through MySJSU. All

The following is generally included in all proposals:

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No course included in the program may be older than 7 years at the time a student receives the Master's degree. New courses must be added to the program to replace those that become outdated. Under certain circumstances, expired courses may be "revalidated" by a written examination or other test of subject competency as required by the faculty. No more than one-third (10 units) of the program may be revalidated.

6. **ñ h**  
See p. 2, item 9.

7. **• " u )**  
Early in the student's final semester (check the Graduate Studies website for the exact date), the student must file an Application for Award of Master's Degree, available from the Office of Graduate Studies. If the thesis is not completed that semester, the student must re-file the application and pay a fee.

8. **8 k**  
Students who have completed all of their degree requirements other than their thesis are not enrolled in any other courses sign up for a unit of 1290R. Enrollment must be repeated each semester until degree completion. There are no class meetings for the course as it is supervisory in nature; however, there is a modest fee associated with it. Registration for the course is delayed until students are given the opportunity to enroll in other courses. The Registrar's Office will check to determine the students who are eligible and will notify the students via a MySJSU message. The students may then register online through MySJSU.

9. **ú "**  
The thesis should be prepared in close consultation with the thesis supervisor and thesis committee. Specific information about format guidelines, deadlines, and other matters can be found on the websites of the College of Graduate Studies (GCS) and the Geology Department. Other specific questions should be directed to the thesis supervisor or graduate advisor.

The signatures of all members of the thesis committee must be secured before submitting the thesis to CGS as a .pdf file, for approval. CGS will only review a thesis once each semester.

Full-text versions of the thesis are available through the MLK Library's online institutional repository, depending on the publishing and license options the student selects. Students may order bound paper copies of their thesis through the ETD administrator.

A pdf of the thesis and a paper copy must be submitted to the Geology Department when the final electronic version is sent to GUP.

When the course work has been completed and the thesis has been signed by the thesis

committee and accepted by the College of Graduate Studies, the University will award a Master's degree at the next commencement.

Congratulations!

1	General Geology	3
7	Historical Geology	4
28	Geology Outdoors	1
120	Fundamentals of Mineralogy	3
122	Petrology	4
124	Sedimentology & Stratigraphy	3
125	Structural Geology	4
129	Field Geology (Field Camp)	4

Calculus – 2 semesters (with the thesis adviser's approval, 1 semester of statistics may be substituted for the second semester of calculus)

Chemistry – 2 semesters

Physics – 2 semesters