

DOCTORAL DEGREE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

for

The Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences

The Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences offers a Ph.D. degree through participation in the Doctoral Program in Engineering and Applied Sciences (ENAS). Specific graduate topics for research supported by the department are diverse, reflecting the diversity of the faculty, and include among others, Igneous Petrology, Geophysics, Aquatic Ecology, Geomorphology, Coastal Oceanography, Coastal/Marine/Deltaic Geology and Processes, Sedimentology, and Paleontology. Table 1 shows coursework and research requirements, with additional requirements listed below.

Table 1. Required credit hours for coursework and research for the Ph.D. degree

	Total credit hours	Transferable credits (from Masters)	Remaining (both Colleges)	Remaining (in COS ¹)	Remaining (in COE ²)
Coursework	51	30	21 ³	12	9*
Research	30	0	30		
Total	81	30	51	12	9

¹College of Science

²College of Engineering

³ of the remaining 21 credit hours, at least 12 credits must be at the 6000 level.

*Program participants are required to complete course work in their major field including 9 credit hours in the College of Engineering.

Additional requirements

Admission requirements into the program are similar to those of a Master's degree and include a GPA of at least 3.0, GRE combined score of at least 300, and for international students, a TOEFL score of 550 or equivalent is required. In addition, applicants must previously contact faculty for available positions in their research groups; faculty must be in agreement to supervise students at the time of evaluation. Students without a faculty advisor will not be considered.

All students accepted into the program, have to form a five member advisory committee and complete three required examinations. The committee should comprise 3 members (including the chair) from the department, 1 external member from the College of Engineering, and one more member from or outside the University.

1. The Qualifying Exam

This exam must be completed within the fourth semester of the student's acceptance into the program. The Ph.D. student will submit a written dissertation proposal (prospectus) and will give an oral defense of this proposal conducted by the dissertation committee (see above) and coordinated by the major professor.

2. The General Examination (Candidacy)

The general examination is set up by the dissertation committee and will be coordinated by the respective major professor. It must include material that will reflect the interdisciplinary nature of the program. This examination should be taken as soon as possible after the advanced course work has been completed.

3. A Final Examination or the Doctoral Defense.

The Ph.D. candidate will submit a written dissertation for evaluation by the dissertation committee and schedule an oral defense of this dissertation conducted by the dissertation committee and coordinated by the major professor.