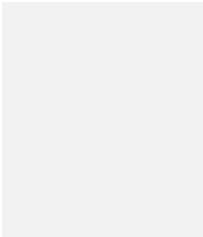


## MS in Biology Program Timeline

Below is a schedule of important milestones that you as a student in the MS Biology program will be striving to meet. Each of these components and required milestones is present to facilitate your growth as a biologist and to enable timely progression to completion with a body of work (your thesis and maybe even a published paper!) that you can be proud of. Your coursework is important for a broad knowledge of biology – important to function as a biologist. Your research and any publications that arise are what are likely to impress future employers and educational programs and demonstrate that you are able to use your broad knowledge to effectively address new questions – this is what biology is all about!

If you have questions on this schedule, please contact the Biology Graduate Program Coordinator (GPC).

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| Before Year<br>1 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Work with GPC, and potential faculty thesis advisor if known, to plan curriculum.<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Ideally, 3 courses + BIOL681 in Semester 1 (11 credits)</li><li>b. Ideally, 3 courses + BIOL682 in Semester 2 (11 credits)</li></ol></li><li>2. Complete <i>Application for Biology Graduate Assistantship</i><ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. GPC, together with Biology faculty, assigns teaching assistantship</li><li>b. Up to \$500/month, paid hourly, typically 8-12 hours of work/week.</li></ol></li><li>3. Attend Biology Graduate Orientation on Friday before first day of Fall semester, 10AM-1PM<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Orientation to facilities, people, and teaching assistantship expectations</li><li>b. Lunch</li></ol></li></ol> |
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Semester 2	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. BIOL682 provides for the development of experimental design and scientific presentation skills <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Thesis proposal written and polished, with help from Thesis advisor.</li> <li>b. Thesis proposal presented to department as final assignment for BIOL682</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Thesis committee members chosen by student together with advisor. All members sign Thesis Committee Agreement form and return to GPC.</li> </ol>
Summer 1	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Month of MAY <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <a href="#">Apply for Graduation</a></li> <li>b. Submit <i>Advancement to Candidacy</i> form</li> <li>c. Defend thesis proposal, within 1-2 weeks of thesis presentation. <p>Student arranges time/place for meeting, ensures the written thesis proposal is sent to the thesis committee and GPC at least 3 days before.</p> <p>Meeting is chaired by thesis advisor or other member of committee.</p> <p>Committee recommendations and discussion documented via <i>Thesis Committee Meeting</i> form</p> <p>Committee makes arrangements for comprehensive exam at end of meeting</p> </li> <li>d. Comprehensive Exam, typically the week following above meeting <p>Coordinated by GPC</p> <p>Following successful completion, GPC changes grade from DG to S.</p> </li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Research!</li> </ol>
Semester 3	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Research! <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Register for 4 " @ O ' U ' u</li> <li>o Register for additional coursework, if necessary.</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Months of NOVEMBER-DECEMBER: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Required progress meeting with thesis committee. Chaired by advisor or other member of thesis committee. Includes 20-30-minute student presentation of results to date</li> <li>o Committee recommendations and discussion of progress, documented via <i>Thesis Committee Meeting</i> form. Completion necessary for semester 4 registration.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>



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required paperwork, and submission of thesis completion form to registrar's office.

4. Printing of thesis may occur after graduation. If thesis is defended but not edited and submitted by 10-day-before-graduation deadline, thesis advisor may complete *Dissertation Report to Academic Records*.  
*Thesis has been approved and only submission of final corrected version is lacking to completion.*
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