

Graduate Satisfactory Progress Policy School of Natural Resources and the Environment

Graduate students in the School of Natural Resources and the Environment will be evaluated for satisfactory progress based on their grade point average and overall progress towards completion of degree requirements.

Grade point average:

A high level of performance is expected of students in our graduate degree program. Students must maintain a *minimum* of a 3.0 cumulative GPA, and a 3.0 semester average.

Students failing to meet GPA requirements will be placed on probation by the Graduate College for one semester. If the cumulative GPA is not raised to the minimum required in the following semester (i.e., within one semester), the student's advisor and advisory committee will decide whether to 1) dismiss the student from the program or 2) with Graduate College approval, allow the student to continue on probation upon approval of a remediation plan.

Graduate Mileposts

The Graduate Milepost table indicates the semester in which certain administrative steps should happen in order to satisfactorily progress towards the completion of degree requirements. These steps include scheduling annual committee meetings, comprehensive exams, submission of research proposals, and timely filing of paperwork (e.g., plans of study). No later than one month after final grades are posted in the spring, a form generated by the Graduate Coordinator will be distributed to faculty for each of their graduate, degree-seeking advisees. The form will highlight GPA deficiencies and whether the student has completed the appropriate Mileposts (e.g., plan of study, committee appointment) during the recommended semester. The faculty advisor will make comments and sign the form, which will then be distributed to the student and the Graduate Coordinator. Students who fail to make satisfactory academic or research progress will be notified in writing of their status (with a copy of the letter going to the Graduate College).

Time to completion:

It is in the best interests of students and the School for degrees to be earned in a timely fashion. MS students who have not completed degree requirements in 3 years, or PhD students who have not completed degrees in 5 years will receive a letter strongly encouraging them to complete all degree requirements within 1 year. Students who fail to meet this deadline will be sent another letter (with a copy going to the Graduate College) and will be required to submit a letter requesting and justifying a time extension. A letter of endorsement from the faculty advisor and advisory committee must accompany the student's letter of request. This process will be repeated annually, with faculty being reminded of their ability to dismiss a student from the program should they choose.

Students who fail to complete requirements and fail to submit a letter requesting a time extension will be automatically dropped from the program at the end of the academic year. Students who request a time extension and fail to meet it may request another provided they have faculty and committee endorsement. Students dismissed from the program are eligible to reapply.

Graduate Milestones		
This table is a guide to the administrative steps towards earning each degree. Required forms are available online on the SNRE website or via GradPath in Uaccess.		
When	M.S. Degree task	Ph.D. Degree task
Start of 1st Semester	Orientation and initial advising; plan coursework	Orientation, initial advising
End of 1st semester	Begin selecting committee members	Qualifying Meeting
End of 2nd semester	Schedule and hold a committee meeting; Submit research proposal to committee; Submit Plan of Study Form	Schedule and hold a committee meeting
End of 3rd Semester	Submit Committee Appointment Form	Submit Doctoral Plan of Study
4th semester	Schedule and hold a committee meeting; Thesis research	Schedule and hold a committee meeting; Submit Research Proposal (Prospectus); Plan comprehensive exam
5th-6th semester	Thesis research and writing; Schedule and hold a committee meeting	Submit Comp Exam Committee Appointment form; Submit the Announcement of Doctoral Comp Exam form; Take the Comprehensive Examination (written and oral portions)
	Present and defend Thesis (Thesis option); Hold Final Exam (Non-thesis option)	Ensure the Department has an updated and approved Research Proposal on file
	Submit SNRE Completion of Degree Requirements Form and printed copy of thesis or project to Graduate Coordinator	Schedule and hold a committee meeting; Submit Doctoral Dissertation Committee Appointment Form
7th + semesters	NA	Dissertation research and writing
		Schedule and hold annual committee meetings
		Submit Announcement of Final Oral Exam form
		Present and Defend Dissertation by the end of 10th semester; Online submission of dissertation to GC and printed version to SNRE