

# UNLV Geoscience MS Program

## Simplified guidelines

### Course requirements

**Total credits required: 30 credits**

- Required courses (4 credits):
  - *GEOL 701 – Research methods*, 3 credits
  - *GEOL 795 – Poster Presentation and Time Management*, 1 credit
- Thesis credits: *GEOL 797 – Thesis*: 6 credits (can register multiple semesters, but only 6 credits will be applied to the degree requirement). Thesis and defense preparation. S/F grading only.
- Elective courses of 600-700 level (20 credits)
  - At least 12 credits (excluding thesis) must be 700-level courses
  - *GEOL 787 – Thesis Research*: 1–6 credits, but only 1 credit can be applied to program requirement (Prior to master’s program prospectus).
  - *GEOL 793 – Independent Study and Research*: 1–3 credits but only 3 credits per instructor can be applied to graduate program (need to fill a form with signature from instructor and graduate coordinator/chair)

For the description of Geoscience graduate classes, please check the following links:

<https://geoscience.unlv.edu/academics/courses/#graduate>  
<https://catalog.unlv.edu/content.php?catoid=25&navoid=5413>

### MS progress timelines

Event	Timing	Required Documentation
Select Advisor	First semester	N/A
Complete GEOL 701	Fall semester of 1 <sup>st</sup> year	N/A
Select Master Advising Committee	Before the end of the 1 <sup>st</sup> semester	Appointment of Advisory Committee Form
Complete GEOL 795	Spring semester of 1 <sup>st</sup> year	N/A
Thesis proposal defense	Before the end of 2 <sup>nd</sup> semester	N/A
Apply for graduation	Beginning of the 4 <sup>th</sup> semester	Apply for graduation in MyUNLV (Student Center under the “Other Academics” drop-down menu).
Dissertation Defense	After approval of full Advisory Committee. Ideally during 4 <sup>th</sup> semester	Culminating Experience Results
IDP reports	Every year	Sent by graduate college
Semester progress report	Every semester	Sent by graduate coordinator

5<sup>th</sup> semester state-funded GA support will be evaluated by the graduate committee and will be given to those who are close to graduation; Note that students should not expect to 6<sup>th</sup> semester state-funded GA support.