

Steps to a MS degree in Geological Sciences

1. Identify a thesis advisor and topic



2. Complete any requirements to become a classified graduate student



3. Discuss with thesis advisor whether to implement Plan A (Thesis) or Plan B (Paper and Comprehensive Exam)

PLAN A

PLAN B



4. Complete a [Degree Completion Plan](#) before the start of your second year. Have it approved by Graduate Affairs. Apply for Advancement to Candidacy



5. Submit a Thesis Committee Form to Graduate Division. Two department faculty and one outside faculty



6. Sign up for 797 units – dept. form



7. Sign up for 799 during semester of final thesis submission to the library (schedule number from Graduate Division)



8. Apply for Graduation and pay fee at Cashier's Office – deadline generally in the first few weeks of the semester



9. Send paper to committee members at least 10 days prior to defense date for review.



10. Final thesis to be defended in front of thesis committee and department



11. Submit formatted thesis to Thesis Review – signature page must be signed by committee members



12. Once approved by Library Reviewer, given credit for 799, graduate and thesis will be archived in the SDSU library.

4. Complete a [Degree Completion Plan](#) before the start of your second year. Have it approved by Graduate Affairs. Apply for Advancement to Candidacy



5. Submit department Plan B Committee Form to the department office. Two department faculty



6. Sign up for 797 units – dept. form



7. Sign up for 750 within one year of Plan B Defense



8. Apply for Graduation and pay fee at Cashier's Office – deadline generally in the first few weeks of the semester



9. Send paper to committee members at least 10 days prior to defense date for review.



10. Final paper to be defended in front of department committee



11. Submit formatted paper and other Material (see Plan B Checklist link) to Department Office – signature page must be signed by committee members