

You will need 30 graduate (500 or higher) units

- 9 of these units come from research
  - o 6 units of 797 (you can take more but only 6 will count toward degree)
  - o 3 units of 799 (plan A) or 750 (plan B)
    - You and your advisor decide which plan is correct for your project
    - 799 has to be taken in your last semester. 750 has a one-year clock meaning that you must complete and defend your thesis one year from taking it
- 21 units or 7 classes of coursework
  - o Can come from 500-level or higher Geol classes or from 500-level or higher classes outside the department.
    - You are required to take at least 3 600-level classes
    - You are permitted to take up to 4 500-level classes, but no more than 2 from Geol.
  - o If a TA you are required to take 6 units a semester minimum
- Complete Degree Completion Plan with Graduate Affairs after your first year
  - o This is a list of course you've already completed and plan to complete to fulfill the 30-unit requirement, which is your Program of Study. Submit your Program of Study (i.e., Degree Completion Plan) as a Petition for Adjustment of Academic Requirements at [https://grad.sdsu.edu/current\\_grad\\_students/forms](https://grad.sdsu.edu/current_grad_students/forms).
- Advance to Candidacy once you complete at least 12 Program of Study units with a minimum 3.0 GPA and all program courses obtained a grade of C or better. Advancement to Candidacy should be requested at [https://grad.sdsu.edu/current\\_grad\\_students/forms](https://grad.sdsu.edu/current_grad_students/forms) and has to be done before taking 799 or 750.