

## **Masters Degree Requirements for the Cell Biology and Development Graduate Program**

A student in the Cell and Developmental Biology Graduate Program can be recommended to the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences to be awarded a Masters Degree when the student has successfully fulfilled the following minimum program requirements:

1. Dean's approval for transfer from the PhD to MS track for graduate studies. Transfers are typically requested by letter to the Dean and co-signed by the Student, Mentor, and Program Director.
2. Grade point average minimum of 3.0 for 30 graduate credits.  
Recommended semester credit load to complete credit requirements in two Summer, one Fall and one Winter semesters: Summer 6 credits, Fall 9 credits, Winter 9 credits, Summer 6 credits.
3. Graduate School Dean-approved 3 member thesis committee (mentor in the Cell Biology & Development Program).

The other 2 thesis committee members may be from outside our Program.

4. Committee-approved thesis proposal which describes the research to be performed.  
Thesis proposal shall consist of a minimum of 3 pages with the following section headings: Abstract, Background of Research Area, Statement of the Research Question, Methods, Expected Results and References.
5. Committee-approved library or laboratory research masters thesis describing the research done.

The Masters Thesis shall include the following section headings: Abstract, Background of Research Area, Statement of the Research Question, Methods, Results, Conclusions and References.

6. Committee-approved oral closed or public defense of the thesis research completed.

At the discretion of the thesis committee, the oral defense can be conducted either in a closed committee meeting or in an advertised public forum.

7. Submission of the thesis with committee-signed Graduate School forms to the Graduate School.

*Updated January 2014*