

## Current Graduate Catalog (Re: MS Thesis and MS Project)

Students should not register for master's project, master's thesis or Ph.D. dissertation credits until they arrange for a department or program-approved faculty advisor to supervise their work. Continued registration for additional thesis or dissertation credits within the overall time limits for completion may be allowed with approval of the academic and research advisors. **A master's project registration is only for one semester and the incomplete (I) grade cannot be assigned.** Credits for which a U (unsatisfactory) grade is given are not counted as degree credits toward completion of the thesis, project or dissertation. **Master's project and master's thesis registration must 3 credits during a semester.** Summer session registration, if needed to allow completion for the August 31st degree date, must be at least 3 credits of project or thesis. A procedure is available to determine [full-time academic status for master's students](#).

Maximum credit registration each semester is 12 credits for the doctoral dissertation, **three credits for the master's thesis** and three credits for the master's project. Additional credit registrations will require the approval of the Vice Provost for Graduate Studies. **With permission of the advisor, students intending to do an MS thesis must first register in the MS project course (700B). They must receive a "B" or higher grade in 700B before MS thesis registration (701B) in the immediate following semester with the same advisor. The MS thesis topic should be continuation of the work done in 700B.**

**Once a student has begun master's thesis or doctoral dissertation work, the student must register for the respective courses each semester until the thesis or dissertation is completed.** Unapproved interruptions in thesis or dissertation registrations are subject to billing for omitted credits. Students must be registered in project, thesis or dissertation in any semester or summer session in which completion is expected.

Approval by the graduate program advisor and the Office of Graduate Studies must be obtained if, for extenuating circumstances, the student wishes to interrupt the thesis, project or dissertation for a semester or more. Students may neither maintain registration, nor fail to register without notifying and getting approval from the graduate program advisor and the Office of Graduate Studies. If a master's project is not completed after two semesters of registration (with prior approval of the Graduate Studies Office to repeat the project course), a final grade of F is given. Failure to complete a master's project by students who received financial support to do the project may result in academic dismissal. The university complies with all state and federal laws related to military service.

Although up to two semesters of master's thesis registration is allowed, additional registration requires an appeal of the academic and research advisors to the Vice Provost for Graduate Studies. However, no more than four semesters and two summers of registration for a master's thesis are permitted. Failure to complete a master's thesis within this period will result in a final grade of U and may result in dismissal.

### Continuous Registration Requirement, Thesis/Dissertation

Once a thesis or dissertation has begun, students must register in MS thesis or dissertation research each semester until completion. Maintaining registration is not permitted in place of a credit registration for thesis or dissertation work. **The grade of I is not permitted for the MS thesis or doctoral dissertation courses.**

Students who complete work for thesis or dissertation over several semesters receive a final grade in the semester in which the work is completed, and after approval of the final document by the Graduate Studies Office.