



Geological Engineering: PhD Degree Requirements & Graduate Curriculum Form

Geological Engineering appeals to students with a wide variety of backgrounds and with different areas of intended emphasis; there are no specific courses that are uniformly required for graduate degrees in Geological Engineering. The student and their Mentor Committee collaboratively develop a curriculum in the student's area of interest. The Mentor Committee must approve the curriculum during the first year of study, and preferably during the first semester.

Department Specific Requirements

The following must be satisfied to obtain a degree in Geological Engineering:

- A grade-point average of 3.0 (on 4.0 scale) or higher in all graduate work. Credits for a course in which the student receives a grade of less than B cannot be applied towards the degree requirements unless specifically approved by the Mentor and Evaluation Committee.
- **PhD Students:** At least **51 graduate credits of graduate work** beyond the BS degree must be completed (for students who have earned a MS degree at UW-Madison, credits accumulated for the MS can be applied towards this requirement). These credits consist of formal course work (following guidelines established by the student's Mentor Committee), independent study, minor subject study, and research/dissertation credits. Typically, 18-24 credits are allocated for research/dissertation work. 32 credits, including minor course-work must be satisfied as well as satisfactory completion of the qualifying exam in order to sit for the preliminary exam and receive [dissertator status](#).
- **PhD Minor:** A minor is required for all PhD candidates. The minor consists of a minimum of 9 credits of course work outside the major field of study and can either be [concentrated in one department \(Option A\)](#) or distributed across two or more departments (Option B). In the case of Option A, the department in which the courses were taken must approve the proposed minor. For Option B, approval comes from the Mentor Committee and the GLE Graduate Committee Chair.
- PhD students must successfully complete the qualification exam, preliminary exam, dissertation defense and submit an approved dissertation to the graduate school.

50% Graduate Coursework Requirement: At least 50% of credits applied toward the graduate degree credit requirement must be completed in graduate-level coursework; courses with the Graduate Level Coursework attribute are identified and searchable in the university's [Course Guide](#). Courses numbered 700 and above are automatically counted toward graduate level minimum requirements.



Name _____

Campus ID# _____

Email _____

Qualifying Exam Pass Date: _____

Tentative Preliminary Exam Date: _____

Research Area: _____

Tentative Graduation Term: _____

PhD Minor Option: Distributed(A) _____ OR External(B) _____ list department name _____

Enter current cumulative GPA _____

1. Complete the course list on the following page.
Minimum Degree Requirements and Satisfactory Progress
http://grad.wisc.edu/catalog/degrees_geoengr_criteria.htm

2. Please attach a brief description of your dissertation topic at the end of this document.

Curriculum Approval

PhD students should work with their advisor and Mentor Committee to develop a curriculum. The following form should then be completed and signed by the advisor and two faculty members from the Mentor Committee.

Tentative Course Plan _____ OR Final approved course plan _____

Curriculum Approved by:

_____ **Date:** _____
(GLE Mentor Committee - Major Advisor)

_____ **Date:** _____
(GLE Mentor Committee-member)

_____ **Date:** _____
(GLE Mentor Committee-member)



Student Name: _____ Student ID: _____

GLE PHD Curriculum-Formal Course List (attach add'l sheet if necessary)					
may include seminar; do not include pass/fail; Audit nor English as a second language courses					
Term	Dept. & Course #	Course Title	Grade	Credit #	50% Graduate Coursework Requirement: Course Guide (y/n)
Total Credits					
GLE Independent Study / Research Credits.					
Term	Dept. & Course # / Title (999 Independent Study; 790-Master Thesis; 890 pre-dissertator research; 990 dissertator research)		Grade	Credit #	50% Graduate Coursework
					y
					y
					y
					y
					y
					y
					y
					y
					y
					y
					y
					y
					y
					y
					y
Total Credits					

Turn this form, as a tentative plan, in to the GLE Graduate Student Coordinator by the end of the first semester or no later than the beginning of the second semester. An updated form will also be submitted upon requesting preliminary exam warrant form.



Brief description of your dissertation topic: