

Marine Geosciences (MGS) Program Graduate Student Handbook 2020-21

(Last updated October 2021)

A. Introduction

The Marine Geosciences (MGS) Program Student Handbook (this document) outlines the procedures and requirements applicable to all students in the Department of Marine Geosciences. It serves as a supplement to the University of Miami (UM) Graduate School and the Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science (RSMAS) Student Handbooks.

UM Graduate Student Handbook:

<https://grad.miami.edu/assets/pdf/graduate-school-student-handbook-2018-2019.pdf>

RSMAS Graduate Student Handbook:

<https://www.graduate.rsmas.miami.edu/assets/pdf/rsmas-student-handbook-2018-2019-final.pdf>

General University requirements and procedures are given in the UM and RSMAS Graduate Student Handbooks. However, some program requirements and procedures may exceed those in the above handbooks. A summary of the MGS program requirements is listed below.

B. Student Responsibility

The Department of Marine Geosciences, its courses, and degree programs operate on an honor system. The faculty expects a high sense of academic integrity and commitment to be maintained at all times. It is the student's responsibility to be aware of all the regulations and procedures as outlined in this Handbook. Any questions or clarifications should be addressed to the MGS Program Director.

C. Graduation Requirements

Graduation requirements may change slightly from year to year as documented in the Graduate Student Handbooks. For this reason, the applicable requirements for a given student will be those in effect during that academic year when he or she first registered as a full-time degree seeking graduate student in the Department.

D. Department Enrollment

It is a requirement for admission to take the GRE test for both the M.S. and Ph.D. programs. The MGS Program does not have a minimum score requirement of its own other than the UM minimum. A minimum GRE score of 297 (total of verbal + quantitative) is required

for acceptance. In addition, applicants must have a minimum of 3.5 on the analytical writing section. International students are required to take the TOEFL examination and have a minimum score of 550 (paper-based test), 213 (computer-based test), or 80 (iBT). However, a strong academic background is also important in the admission decision.

E. Degree Requirements

All milestone forms are available through the Graduate Studies Office (GSO) website.

<https://www.graduate.rsmas.miami.edu/students/forms-guidelines-and-handbooks/index.html>

Doctor of Philosophy (60 credits)

The expected time to completion for a Ph.D. is 5 years. Under the current RSMAS financial model, the student may be held responsible for tuition, stipend, and any fees beyond 5 years. A student in residence in the program beyond 8 years requires approval by the MGS Program Director and the RSMAS Associate Dean of Graduate Studies.

- a. **Minimum Credit Requirements:** A total of 60 credits beyond the baccalaureate degree is the minimum UM requirement for the Ph.D. students. The MGS program requires a total of 30 credits in approved courses (may include the 24 course credits earned toward the M.S. degree at the University of Miami or at an approved outside institution). A minimum of 12 research credits (MGS 830) is required.
- b. **Comprehensive Examination:** Examination must be passed (see Section H).
- c. **Dissertation Proposal:** The proposal should contain the following information,
 - Tentative title
 - Statement of the problem and objectives of the proposed study
 - Method of attacking the problem, including any equipment and facilities required
 - Timetable

A dissertation proposal must be approved by each member of the student's committee. A Proposal Approval Form, available in the Graduate Studies Office, must accompany the proposal and be signed by the members of the student's committee and the MGS Program Director.

- d. **Qualifying Examination:** Prior to the Qualifying Examination, a dissertation proposal must be approved by the student's committee. See Section H of this document on Qualifying Examinations.

A form, available in the Graduate Studies Office, notifying GSO of the outcome of the Qualifying Exam, must be signed by the members of the student's dissertation committee and the MGS Program Director.

- e. Admission to Candidacy: Before being admitted to candidacy, the student must:
- Successfully pass the comprehensive exam
 - Have an approved committee on file in the Graduate Studies Office
 - Submit and successfully defend an approved dissertation proposal
 - Pass the qualifying exam
 - Have a 3.0 average or above in all credits attempted as a UM graduate student, with no single grade below “C”
 - Fulfill MGS course credit requirements
 - Remove all deficiencies

A form for Admission to Candidacy, available from the RSMAS Graduate Studies Office, should be signed by members of the student’s dissertation committee and the MGS Program Director and be returned to the RSMAS Graduate Studies Office at least one semester prior to the expected semester of graduation.

- f. Dissertation Defense: An Announcement of Defense form, signed by all committee members and the MGS Program Director, must be turned in to the Graduate Studies Office by the student at least 14 days prior to the defense date, notifying the time and place of the defense and the title of the dissertation. The student is responsible for obtaining signatures from all committee members and Program Director. The student must provide the committee with a complete version of the dissertation 28 days prior to the desired defense date.

The committee chairperson should notify the Graduate Studies Office, in writing, of the outcome of the defense via the Defense Memorandum and Assessment forms.

- g. Dissertation Submission: Instructions regarding proper forms can be obtained from the RSMAS Graduate Studies Office or the Graduate School. A Certificate of Approval signed by each member of the student’s committee, available from the Graduate Studies Office, must accompany each dissertation before it goes to the Graduate School.
- h. Publications: MGS Ph.D. students are strongly encouraged to submit their research findings to scientific literature. The recommended guideline is three papers as primary author submitted to peer-reviewed journals before defense.

Master of Science (30 credits)

The expected time to completion for a M.S. is 2 years.

- a. Minimum Credit Requirements: 24 course credits and 6 research credits (MGS 810).
- b. Comprehensive Examination: Examination must be passed (see section H).

c. Thesis Proposal: The proposal should contain the following information,

- Tentative title
- Statement of the problem and objective of the proposed study
- Methods of attacking the problem, including any equipment or facilities required

The proposal must be approved by each member of the student's thesis committee. A Proposal Approval Form, available in the Graduate Studies Office, must accompany the proposal and be signed by the members of the student's committee and the MGS Program Director.

d. Before defense, a student must:

- Successfully pass the comprehensive exam (see section H)
- Have an approved committee on file in the Graduate Studies Office
- Submit and successfully defend the thesis proposal
- Have a 3.0 GPA or above in all work undertaken as a UM graduate student, with no single grade below "C"
- Fulfill MGS course credit requirements
- Remove all deficiencies

e. Thesis Defense: An Announcement of Defense form, signed by all committee members and the MGS Program Director, must be turned in to the Graduate Studies Office by the student at least 14 days prior to the defense date, notifying the time and place of the defense and the title of the thesis. The student is responsible for obtaining signatures from all committee members and Program Director. The student must provide the committee with a complete version of the thesis 28 days prior to the desired defense date.

The committee chairperson should notify the Graduate Studies Office, in writing, of the outcome of the defense via the Defense Memorandum and Assessment forms.

f. Submission of Thesis: Instructions regarding proper forms can be obtained from the RSMAS Graduate Studies Office or from the Graduate School. When the thesis is submitted, the RSMAS Graduate Studies Office should be notified by a copy of the Certificate of Approval signed by each member of the student's committee before it goes to the Graduate School.

g. With the approval of the student's thesis committee, a journal publication may be submitted instead of a thesis. The following regulations apply:

- The publication must be the work of the student (sole author) and not a joint effort with another person or persons.
- The work on which the publication is based must be a part of the student's graduate program for which appropriate graduate credit was granted.
- Papers must be formatted according to UM guidelines for a M.S. thesis.

- The student must have a thesis committee that shall be appointed in accord with, and function as prescribed in the Graduate Bulletin regulations for Master's theses.

F. Course Requirements

In addition to fulfilling the general requirements, all MGS students must complete any two courses in the MGS 610 Series, including MGS 611 (Earth Surface Processes), 613 (Introduction to Geochemistry) and 614 (Geophysics). MGS 771 (Diagenesis of Carbonate Sediments) may substitute for MGS 613. MGS 682 (Introduction to Seismology), 635 (Geological Hazards), or 723 (Geodynamics) may substitute Geophysics (614).

These requirements may be waived by permission of the MGS Graduate Program Academic Committee.

The intent of these course requirements is to ensure preparation across the range of subfields within MGS. If a student does not follow these requirements and performs poorly in one of the relevant subfields on the comprehensive exam, it may trigger a requirement to enroll in the respective course as a condition for further advancement in the MGS program.

All MGS students are required to register for MGS 701 (Seminar in MGS) at least once and attend all meetings of the course throughout their tenure in the MGS program. Students are required to give presentations and actively participate in the course.

G. Advisors

Faculty Advisor

Upon admission to MGS, a faculty advisor is assigned by the MGS Program Director in consultation with MGS faculty having areas of research in common with the student. In most cases, during the application process, the prospective student has already contacted a specific faculty member with whom he or she is interested in working. The function of this advisor is to assist with academic progress in the initial stages of enrollment at RSMAS, especially the first two semesters when most courses are taken. Students are encouraged to talk with the Faculty Advisor about class scheduling, course load, elective classes in the student's area of interests, research work, and any other academic problems that may arise. The Faculty Advisor should, as soon as possible, discuss with the student areas of research interest and the selection of a Committee Chairperson.

Committee Chairperson

During the first two semesters it is important that the student begins to familiarize himself/herself with the research being carried out, and upcoming projects by various members of the faculty. As soon as the student has settled on an area of research interest, they should in concert with their Faculty Advisor, determine which member of the faculty is the logical choice to be Chairperson of the thesis/dissertation committee. Although the

Committee Chair does not have to be the current Faculty Advisor, most students have talked with a faculty member prior to enrollment and often have the same Faculty Advisor and Committee Chairperson.

Thesis/Dissertation Committee

a. M.S. Thesis Committee

The student and Committee Chairperson should consult to nominate at least two additional members who would be willing to serve on the committee. The thesis committee will consist of not less than three members. The Committee Chairperson must be Regular Faculty of the MGS Department (Appendix A). A co-chairperson must be a member of the Regular Faculty of the MGS Department or an adjunct faculty member of the MGS Department. In addition to the Chairperson, one of the remaining members must also be Regular Faculty or have Graduate Faculty status in the MGS Department; the third member must come from outside the MGS department that is from another program or institution. The MGS Program Director must approve the thesis committee.

Once the Committee is formed, the Appointment to Student's Committee form should be completed, signed by all committee members and the Program Director, and forwarded to the Graduate Studies Office.

b. Ph.D. Dissertation Committee

The Dissertation Committee members should be chosen as early as possible after deciding on a research topic, so as to help facilitate and contribute to the research project. The student and Committee Chairperson should consult to nominate at least three additional members who would be willing to sit as members of the Dissertation Committee. The Committee Chairperson shall be a regular member of the Graduate Faculty of the MGS Department (Appendix A). Of the remaining members, it is also required that two shall be from the Graduate Faculty of the MGS Department, and one member from outside of MGS (from another program or institution) who must have a Ph.D. degree (Adjunct and secondary appointments are both still considered outside, as long as their primary affiliation is not MGS). The MGS Program Director must approve the Dissertation Committee.

Once the Committee is formed, the Appointment to Student's Committee form should be completed, signed by all committee members and the Program Director, and forwarded to the Graduate Studies Office.

c. Committee Membership Changes

Proposed changes in the membership of existing committees must be approved by the Committee Chairperson and must carry the endorsement of the MGS Academic Committee, before being forwarded to the Graduate Studies Office.

d. Committee Meeting

The thesis/dissertation committee should meet once every semester in order to review student's progress and discuss new data/results/interpretations. The Committee Chairperson should send a brief memorandum on the student's progress to the Graduate Studies Office.

Program Academic Committee

The MGS Program Academic Committee, chaired by the Program Director, implements the Program's requirements and procedures regarding academic affairs; reviews, monitors, and recommends changes in the program and its requirements; and reviews petitions for exceptions to program policy.

H. Examinations

Comprehensive Examination

All students enrolled in the MGS academic program are required to take a comprehensive examination by the end of their third semester of graduate studies at RSMAS. If a student transfers into the MGS Program from another discipline within UM, then he/she must complete the comprehensive examination. This examination is normally held in May for students entering in the Fall semester of the same academic year and next May for students entering in January. The examination will be arranged by the Exam Committee Chairperson and consist of examiners from within the Department. The committee usually does not include the faculty advisor of the student although there will be instances where the faculty advisor needs to be included to ensure an appropriate balance in the committee.

The purpose of the comprehensive examination is to evaluate the student's understanding of fundamental principles, reasoning skills, and to determine if any basic deficiencies are present in the student's background after two to three semesters of classes. The comprehensive exams consist of five blocks, each devoted to a distinct geoscience. The students choose to answer questions in four topics: two in the morning and two in the afternoon. The topics are:

- 1) Geophysics and Earth Structure
- 2) Plate Tectonics and Basin Formation
- 3) Paleoceanography and Paleoclimatology
- 4) Sedimentology and Stratigraphy
- 5) Geochemistry and Petrology

The exam consists of a written part, which usually lasts about 6-8 hours, and an oral part, which lasts about 1 hour. The results of the written portion of the exam and performance of the oral exam determine the grade given by the examining board.

For the M.S. degree candidate, possible grades include PASS or FAIL. A grade of PASS indicates acceptable comprehension of basic principles and allows the student to complete the M.S. degree. Following completion of the M.S. degree at UM, the student may apply for the Ph.D. program and is not required to retake the comprehensive examination, unless a period of more than four years has elapsed. A grade of FAIL indicates gaps in understanding or knowledge of basic geological, geochemical, or geophysical principles. The student can retake the exam a second time in order to achieve a passing grade. If failure occurs on the second attempt, the student can be dismissed from the MGS program.

For a Ph.D. student, a grade of either PASS or FAIL is given. A PASS indicates that the student may proceed with additional course work, research proposal development, and preparation to take the qualifying examination. Failure of the exam will require the student to retake the exam at a time to be determined by the Exam Committee and the MGS Academic Committee. This retake is usually scheduled no later than the end of the following semester. If failure occurs on the second attempt, the student can be dismissed from the MGS program.

Thesis/Dissertation Proposal

A thesis/dissertation proposal should be prepared by the student under the supervision of the Committee Chairperson and submitted to the full thesis/dissertation committee. The student is expected to discuss the proposed research with committee members during the developmental stages of the proposal. For the M.S. degree, the proposal should be submitted to the student's committee members by the start of the fourth semester and must be approved by the student's committee and the MGS Program Director. For the Ph.D., the proposal should be submitted to the student's committee members by the end of the third year and at least two weeks prior to the qualifying examination, and also must be approved by the student's committee and the MGS Program Director.

Qualifying Examination (Ph.D.)

The Qualifying Examination should be taken by the end of the third year. A completed dissertation proposal demonstrating the ability to formulate and test a hypothesis must be submitted at least two weeks before the exam. The scheduling of the exam should be discussed with the Committee Chairperson and Dissertation Committee. The purpose of the exam is to determine knowledge of (a) general principles of geology, geochemistry, and geophysics, (b) knowledge of the student's individual specialty, and (c) peripheral and supporting disciplines.

The Dissertation Committee administers a written examination on the subjects outlined above. An oral examination may follow the written exam if necessary to clarify answers, as judged by the Dissertation Committee. The written exam can consist of either take-home, open-book questions on broad areas of interests related to the dissertation topic, or a closed-book written examination completed the same day. Written questions are submitted by the Dissertation Committee and are selected by the Committee Chairperson. Unless specifically designated as an open-book examination, the qualifying examination is

closed book. Students taking the closed-book examination are expected to remain in the examination room for the duration of the exam. Permission to leave the room should be requested from the test proctor or from the student’s advisor. No student is to leave the test room, building, or campus at any time during the examination period.

Upon satisfactory completion of the qualifying exam, the student enters into candidacy for the Ph.D., provided all other requirements have been met. If the qualifying exam is failed, the student may, at the discretion of the Dissertation Committee, be allowed one opportunity to be re-examined, but in this case no later than the end of the following semester. No “partial passes” of the qualifying exam are allowed.

Annual Student Review

The MGS Academic Committee reviews the progress of each student during the Fall semester. These reviews will be to check on fulfillment of the UM Graduate School, RSMAS, and MGS Program requirements and to ensure the student is making adequate research progress on a thesis or dissertation project. The Academic Committee review checks specifically on course and research credit hours, formation of the thesis/dissertation committee, submittal of thesis/dissertation proposal, and submission of all forms required for admission to candidacy.

I. Timetable of Degree Programs

The timetable shown below gives the usual degree schedule to be followed by MGS students as described in previous sections. Deviations from this timetable must be approved on an individual basis by the student’s Faculty Advisor/Committee Chairperson and the MGS Academic Committee. If a student fails to meet a required deadline for an exam, the student may be asked to leave the program or to change the degree objective.

REQUIREMENT	M.S. DEGREE	PH.D. DEGREE
Faculty Advisor	Upon Admission	Upon Admission
Comprehensive Exam	End of 3 rd Semester	End of 3 rd Semester
Thesis/Dissertation Committee	End of 3 rd Semester	End of 2 nd Year
Thesis/ Dissertation Proposal	Start of 4 th Semester	End of 3 rd Year
Qualifying Exam	N/A	End of 3 rd Year
Retake of Comprehensive exam	End of 4 th Semester	End of 4 th Semester
Retake of Qualifying Exam	N/A	End of 1 st Semester in 4 th Year

J. Language Requirements

The MGS Program does not require a foreign language for either the M.S. or Ph.D. degree.

K. Health Insurance

All full-time graduate students, and all other students who have paid the Student Health Center Fee, are eligible for care at the Student Health Center. Many services are provided at no charge. All medical records are confidential, are not part of the University records and will not be released without the patient's permission or court order.

L. Funding Options

There are various types of student funding available within the MGS program. These usually include research assistantships, teaching assistantships, scholarships (external or internal) and private sources (self-funded).

Research Assistantship

A Research Assistant (RA), supported by student advisor's grant, is required to work a minimum of 20 hours per week on material designated by the student's advisor. Students are required (i) to be in residence and (ii) inform their advisor within a reasonable time period of planned absences. Failure to meet these requirements can result in dismissal from the program. If a student is in non-compliance with the conditions of the RA, then the advisor will inform the student in writing.

Teaching Assistantship

All RSMAS Ph.D. students are expected to be a Teaching Assistant (TA) for two courses while pursuing their degree. A training session and two teaching opportunities are offered as courses in educational training (RSM 771, RSM 772, and RSM 773). The mandatory TA program will include training of new TAs, evaluation of their performance, and recognition of excellence. The goal is to make the experience as valuable as possible for the TA, the faculty, and the students taking our courses. Please refer to the RSMAS Student Handbook for specific TA requirements.

Scholarship

There are various types of scholarships available from University of Miami or external sources (NSF, NASA, NOAA, etc.) Requirements of these scholarships are similar to research assistantships. Students are required (i) to be in residence and (ii) inform their advisor within a reasonable time period of planned absences. For external scholarships, students are required to meet the requirements outlined by the funding agency.

Self-funded Status

Students without University or other funding are required to fulfill basic requirements outlined in Section I. Failure to comply may result in the student's dismissal from the program.

M. Other Important Information

Full-Time Status

A student is considered full-time if registered for at least 9 course credits or at least one research credit (MGS 810 and 830).

Registration

Registration is required of all MGS graduate students during the regular two semesters, unless a leave of absence has been requested and approved.

It is important that all students receiving a fellowship, or being paid as research or teaching assistants, be registered as full-time (9+ course credits or 1 research credit) students. All students (excluding self-funded students) must register for a minimum of 12 credits per year. Spring (4 credits), Summer I (2 credits), Summer II (2 credits), Fall (4 credits).

Should a student fail to register, and not be on approved leave, he or she will be dropped from the student rolls. Should this occur, the student will be required to again submit a formal application for admission to the Graduate School and the student's credentials will be reviewed along with those of all other applicants according to the admission criteria in effect at that time. Information, requirements and application forms are available at the RSMAS Graduate Studies Office.

Academic Probation and Dismissal

If the Faculty Advisor or Committee Chairperson is unsatisfied with a student's academic performance, the thesis/dissertation committee (if not formed, the MGS Program Academic Committee) will be called on for a meeting. Immediately following the meeting, the Faculty Advisor or Committee Chairperson will send a written notice to the student with the committee's academic expectations and inform the MGS Academic Committee of the meeting outcome. If no improvements are observed by the end of the same semester, a grade of "U" (for Unsatisfactory) may be given for the student's research credits (MGS 810 or 830) and the student will be on academic probation. One semester of probationary period will be given to the student. If no successful academic progress is made in the following semester, the student may be dismissed from the Department.

Non-Degree Status

A limit of 12 credits may be earned by a non-degree student.

Certificate in Applied Carbonate Geology

The goal of the Certificate Program is to provide first-rate continuing education to professionals or geology students who want to become experts in carbonate geology. To

reach this goal courses are offered in carbonate sedimentology, seismic stratigraphy, petrophysics, and geochemistry for an advanced knowledge and understanding in carbonate systems.

A bachelor's degree or equivalent degree is required for attendance. This requirement can be offset by years of working experience. No GRE or TOEFL are required, yet common knowledge of English is required.

The Certificate Program is offered in the Spring Semester and 1st Summer Session of each year. A successful completion of the program will require 16 course credits to be taken. There are ten electable 2- or 3-credit courses in the program. Participants will not write a thesis but the courses are structured in a way that classroom knowledge is directly used in subsequent laboratory classes and projects.

Transfer of Credit

Graduate course credits, with grades of "B" or above, may be transferred from other accredited institutions to the University of Miami to meet graduate degree requirements, upon written petition by the student and with the approval of the MGS Program Director. Forms are available from the Graduate Studies Office. In no case will credit be transferred until having completed, with grades of "B" or above, an equivalent number of course credits at the University of Miami. At most, 6 credits can be transferred for the M.S. and 9 credits for the Ph.D., for students not already holding a M.S. degree. Students that receive a M.S. degree from another university are normally given credit for 24 course credits.

Recency of Credit

All work, including credit transferred from other institutions, must be completed within 6 years of the time of admission to graduate work for those studying for the M.S. degree, and within 8 years for those studying for the Ph.D. degree. Validation of over-age credits is possible only by successful examination of the pertinent course material, and with the endorsement of the thesis/dissertation committee.

Student Publications

Student publication and presentation of thesis/dissertation results is encouraged by the Department. All publications must be reviewed by the student's Faculty Advisor or Committee Chairperson prior to submittal. Abstracts or manuscripts submitted without a MGS faculty member as a co-author must be approved in writing by the Faculty Advisor or Committee Chairperson. Written notification should be sent to the MGS Academic Committee, this is required before submitting the manuscript/abstract.

Geotopics Lecture Series

All MGS students are expected to attend the department weekly seminar Geotopics. The diverse lecture series presents recent and ongoing research by RSMAS faculty and visiting

scientists. These presentations help provide a broad, well-rounded view of research topics in the earth sciences.

Student Titles

All MGS graduate students paid through the University have the title of either Research Assistant or Teaching Assistant. These titles should be used for correspondence. The title of Research Associate is reserved for post-doctoral positions within the Department, and should not be used by graduate students.

Course Changes

Students may drop courses each semester until the dates specified in the University Academic calendar. Forms are available from the RSMAS Graduate Studies Office.

Grade Changes

When a course is completed for which a grade of “Incomplete” has been recorded, the grade must be changed by means of a form available in the Graduate Studies Office. Incompletes must normally be made up by the end of the following semester. An instructor can require a student to fulfill an incomplete by providing appropriate notice.

Travel to Scientific Meetings

The Student Travel Fund (STF) is a graduate student run committee that awards money to RSMAS graduate students for travel to present at scientific conferences and conduct research. Only students who are presenting results from their thesis or dissertation research are supported. Guidelines are available from the MGS representative on the Student Travel Fund Committee.

Clearance Procedures

When a student leaves RSMAS, either through graduation, taking a leave of absence, or withdrawal, he or she must obtain a Clearance Form from the Graduate Studies Office. The form must be signed by the designated persons and returned to the Graduate Studies Office.

Leave of Absence

If a student wishes to take a leave of absence, a written request to the thesis/dissertation committee or MGS Academic Committee is necessary. The committee sends the request, along with its recommendation, to the Graduate Studies Office. A leave is normally granted up to one year. When the student wishes to return, an Application for Readmission must be submitted to the Graduate Studies Office. A student taking a leave of absence must complete a Clearance Form. These forms are available from the Graduate Studies Office.

Withdrawal

If a student wishes to withdraw from MGS, they must notify the Graduate Studies Office in writing. A clearance form must be completed.

Graduation

A student ready to graduate must apply for graduation during the semester in which they intend to graduate. This must be done either at registration or no later than the deadline specified in the University Academic Calendar. Applications are completed online through CaneLink. The student must be registered in the semester the thesis or dissertation is defended.

Understanding of the Student Guidelines

Upon admission, students are required to sign an acknowledgement form that they have read and understand the UM Graduate Student Handbook, RSMAS Graduate Student Handbook, and MGS Program Student Handbook and that they will abide by the said guidelines.

Appendix A

MGS Graduate Faculty 2020-2021

Sam Purkis: Department Chair

Ali Pourmand: Graduate Program Director

(Chairperson of the Program Academic Committee)

Faculty and Graduate Academic Committee:

Adam Holt

Falk Amelung

Keir Becker

Gregor Eberli

James Klaus

Guoqing Lin

James Natland (Professor Emeritus)

Amanda Oehlert

Larry Peterson

Pamela Reid

Peter Swart

Rod Zika (Professor Emeritus)

Appendix B

MGS Courses offered in the past 3 years (3 credits, unless otherwise stated)

- MGS 601: Oceanography I (Geological)
- MGS 611: Earth Surface Processes
- MGS 613: Introduction to Geochemistry
- MGS 614: Geophysics
- MGS 619: Field Studies of Geobiology in Tropical Marine Environments
- MGS 634: Hydrological Hazards
- MGS 635: Geological Hazards
- MGS 641: Field Evaluation of Fossil Platforms, Margins, & Basins (2 cr)
- MGS 642: Field Evaluation of Fossil Platforms, Margins, & Basins II (2 cr)
- MGS 650: Mathematical Methods for Geoscientists
- MGS 679: Plate Tectonics
- MGS 681: Petroleum Geology
- MGS 682: Introduction to Seismology
- MGS 683: Scanning Electron Microscopy (2 cr)
- MGS 687: Facies Succession on Great Bahama Bank (2 cr)
- MGS 688: Heterogeneity of a Windward Margin (2 cr)
- MGS 691: Research Methods in Electron Microscopy (2 cr)

- MGS 701: Seminar in Marine Geosciences (1 cr)
- MGS 720: Satellite Radar Interferometry in the Earth Sciences
- MGS 721: Petroleum Geology of Carbonates (2 cr)
- MGS 722: Geophysical Inverse Theory
- MGS 723: Geodynamics
- MGS 724: Seismic Interpretation of Carbonate Systems (2 cr)
- MGS 725: Petrophysics of Carbonates (2 cr)
- MGS 726: Carbonate Diagenesis & Petrography (2 cr)
- MGS 727: Analysis of Carbonate Cores and Logs (2 cr)
- MGS 728: Advanced Seismology
- MGS 750: Stable Isotopes in Biogeochemical Processes
- MGS 761: Sedimentary Petrography
- MGS 768: Radiogenic Isotope Geochemistry
- MGS 771: Diagenesis of Carbonate Sediments
- MGS 772: Basin Analysis and Seismic Interpretation
- MGS 776: Paleoclimatology
- MGS 777: Physical Volcanology

- MGS 810: Master's Thesis
- MGS 830: Doctoral Dissertation



Marine Geosciences (MGS)

GRADUATE STUDENT ACKNOWLEDGMENT FORM

It is the requirement of the Department of Marine Geosciences at the University of Miami (UM)'s Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science (RSMAS) that any student participating in the M.S. and Ph.D. Programs must adhere to the policies articulated in the following documents: UM Graduate Student Handbook, RSMAS Graduate Student Handbook, and MGS Program Student Handbook. Students must provide evidence of this agreement by signing this Graduate Student Acknowledgement Form.

By signing below, you acknowledge that you have read the requirements and procedures provided in the above documents and accept responsibility for knowledge of the contents of the current year's Graduate Student Handbooks and the requirements for your degree.

Graduate Student's Name (Please Print)

Graduate Student's Signature

Date
