

MASTERS THESIS TRACK TIMELINE

Progress	Recommended Deadline [Dates in brackets using <i>example</i> Defense date of May 2 nd]
Select advisor and think about topic	Beginning of semester prior to Defense [e.g. August]
Select committee	Beginning of semester prior to Defense [e.g. early September]
First draft of Masters Thesis Proposal* to your chair	Eight months prior to Defense [e.g. Mid October]
Final draft of Thesis Proposal to all committee members	Seven months prior to Defense [e.g. Early November]
Complete research	[December, January, February]
Write first draft of Thesis	[March]
Full draft of Masters Thesis to your chair	Seven weeks prior to Defense date [e.g. March 14 th]
Find a specific Defense date and time that works for everyone on committee	Five weeks prior to Defense date [e.g. March 28 th]
Revise thesis to incorporate your chair's comments	
Revised (near final) draft of Masters Thesis to all committee members	Two weeks prior to Defense date [e.g. April 18 th]
Re-work to incorporate committee feedback	
Distribute final version to committee	One week prior to Defense date
Defend Masters Thesis	Defense date [e.g. May 2 nd]

*The Thesis Proposal should be approximately 10 pages in length, laying out your research question and proposed methodology. A focused literature review should also be included. Please see Masters Thesis Proposal Outline on our website for specifics