

# Important Dates and Suggested Timelines for Completion

The graduate college lists and updates Important Dates for Graduate Students each semester. Thesis students must adhere to all listed deadlines. However, non-thesis students only need to adhere to the deadlines pertaining to “Applications to graduate” since non-thesis projects are submitted to Science Education, rather than the graduate college.

The timeline for completion of the thesis project, specifically, is not intuitive and may appear to be over zealous. For example, deadlines for a May graduation occur in March of that semester. Consequently, a greater than average level of planning and forethought is required to meet these deadlines and the writing process often takes much longer than expected.

## ***Proposed Sci Ed MA Paper Deadlines for Graduation***

The following outlines proposed deadlines that students should establish with their advisors in anticipation of a specific graduation semester. A few things to note:

- Deadlines assume three drafts of a (full) final paper before sending to outside readers/committee members. Some projects will require additional drafts, however very few students need fewer drafts to produce a quality product. Students should consult with advisors on the exact number of drafts needed.
- Deadlines represent the LATEST date and are for the stage of the project *after* the proposal and implementation of the project. Obviously, accomplishing tasks *before* deadlines is ideal.
- Deadlines also assume a two-week (one in the summer) turnaround time each for advisors and student revisions. HOWEVER, this is completely dependent on an advisor’s availability and a writer’s efficiency at making revisions.
- Finally, these are minimum suggestions. Students must work with their advisors to sketch out specific dates and deadlines that work for both of them.

## **Non-thesis**

### **Summer graduation timeline:**

- Mid-May: full and completed **first draft** of paper due to advisor for comments and feedback
- First week in June: **Second draft** of paper due to advisor with comments from first draft addressed/corrected
- Mid-June: **Third draft** of paper due to advisor with comments from second draft addressed/corrected

- July 1 (check grad student dates for specific due date): **Apply to graduate** via Student Center
- First week of July: **“Final” paper draft** due to advisor and outside reader for comments
- Third week in July: Project and paper **presentation**
- Last Wednesday of July: **Final approved paper** due to sciedgradcoord@uni.edu

#### **Fall graduation timeline:**

- First week in September: full and completed **first draft** of paper due to advisor for comments and feedback
- First week in October: **Second draft** of paper due to advisor with comments from first draft addressed/corrected
- First week of November: **Third draft** of paper due to advisor with comments from second draft addressed/corrected
- November 10 (check grad student dates for specific due date): **Apply to graduate** via Student Center
- Full week before Thanksgiving: **“Final” paper draft** due to advisor and outside reader for comments
- Week after Thanksgiving: Project and paper **presentation**
- Second Wednesday after Thanksgiving: **Final approved paper** due to sciedgradcoord@uni.edu

#### **Spring graduation timeline:**

- First week of January: full and completed **first draft** of paper due to advisor for comments and feedback
- First week of February: **Second draft** of paper due to advisor with comments from first draft addressed/corrected
- First week of March: **Third draft** of paper due to advisor with comments from second draft addressed/corrected
- April 1 (check grad student dates for specific due date): **Apply to graduate** via Student Center
- First week of April: **“Final” paper draft** due to advisor and outside reader for comments
- Third week of April: Project and paper **presentation**
- Last Wednesday of April: **Final approved paper** due to sciedgradcoord@uni.edu

## **Thesis**

#### **Summer graduation timeline:**

- Mid-February: full and completed **first draft** of paper due to advisor for comments and feedback
- Mid-March: **Second draft** of paper due to advisor with comments from first draft addressed/corrected

- Mid-April: **Third draft** of paper due to advisor with comments from second draft addressed/corrected
- May sometime: Schedule **thesis preview** with Graduate College
- Mid-May: **“Final” paper draft** due to advisor and committee for comments
- First week in June: Thesis **presentation**
- Mid-June: **Final approved paper** due in graduate college
- July 1 (typically): **Apply to graduate** via Student Center

#### **Fall graduation timeline:**

- Mid-July: full and completed **first draft** of paper due to advisor for comments and feedback
- First week of August: **Second draft** of paper due to advisor with comments from first draft addressed/corrected
- First week of September: **Third draft** of paper due to advisor with comments from second draft addressed/corrected
- Late Aug/Mid October sometime: Schedule **thesis preview** with Graduate College
- First week of October: **“Final” paper draft** due to advisor and committee for comments
- Mid-October: Thesis **presentation**
- First week of November: **Final approved paper** due in graduate college
- First week of November: **Apply to graduate** via Student Center

#### **Spring graduation timeline:**

- First week of December: full and completed **first draft** of paper due to advisor for comments and feedback
- First week of January: **Second draft** of paper due to advisor with comments from first draft addressed/corrected
- First Week of February: **Third draft** of paper due to advisor with comments from second draft addressed/corrected
- February sometime: Schedule **thesis preview** with Graduate College
- First week of March: **“Final” paper draft** due to advisor and committee for comments
- Mid-March: Thesis **presentation**
- Last week of March: **Final approved paper** due in graduate college
- First week of April: **Apply to graduate** via Student Center