

**ROAD MAP TO M.A. / M.S. PROGRAM**  
**DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY - INDIANA UNIVERSITY**

*First Semester:*

- Course selection in collaboration with Director of Graduate Studies and other appropriate faculty.
- Required Courses: *G500* (and *G588*, if necessary), plus additional electives for a total of 10 to 12 credit hours.

*Second Semester:*

- Required Courses: *G501*, *G504*, plus additional graduate courses, which should include at least one 600-level seminar, (if available), for a total of 9 to 12 credit hours.
- Student selects Advisory Committee consisting of:
  - Major advisor from the Department of Geography;
  - At least two additional faculty members, one of which may be from outside the department.
- If required: Student files for Human Subjects clearance on proposed research and outcome of filing is placed in student's file in departmental office.
- Student meets with the Advisory Committee to obtain approval of topic for M.A./M.S. thesis (or papers).
- Student prepares proposal (4 to 6 pages in length) for the M.A./M.S. thesis (or for each of the two papers).
- Proposal(s) must be accepted by the student's Advisory Committee and instructor of *G501*.

*Summer Sessions:*

- Graduate students spend summer involved in readings and research related to their thesis or papers.

*Third Semester:*

- Additional Course Work: 6 to 9 graduate credit hours (including the seminar, if not completed above).
- Students should present an informal, oral, progress report on thesis or research papers within the department.

*Fourth Semester:*

- Up to 6 credit hours of *G845* or *G850* should be taken.
- By the end of the sixth week of the semester, student must submit an Application for Advanced Degree form to the University Graduate School.
- Student submits copy of thesis to all members of Advisory Committee.
- With approval of the Advisory Committee, student schedules Oral Defense to occur at least two weeks before the end of the semester.
- One week prior to the scheduled defense, the thesis advisor or M.A./M.S. research paper advisors notify departmental faculty of the defense; student must supply the Main Office of the department a copy of the thesis or papers for faculty to review.
- Oral Defense takes place.
- The Advisory Committee decides whether student should pass, fail, or pass with the recommendation that the student continue at IU toward the Ph.D.
- Following the exam the M.A./M.S. thesis advisor, or the principal advisors of the student's M.A./M.S. research papers, decide grade for *G850* or *G845*, as appropriate.
- One day after defense, the research advisor(s) notify departmental faculty of results of Oral Defense.
- Assuming successful completion of the exam, the student must supply two copies of the thesis or research papers to the Geography and Map Library.

***Exceptions to these procedures must be approved by the Director of Graduate Studies.***

**M.A./M.S. GUIDELINE**

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_ **ENTRY DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

Courses	Semester	Grade	Credits	Elective Courses	Semester	Grade	Credits
G500			4				
G501			3				
G504			3				
Seminar			3				
G845 / G850			3				
G845 / G850			3				

**SECOND SEMESTER:**

Student Advisory Committee:

Advisor: \_\_\_\_\_ Committee Members: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Human Subject clearance: \_\_\_\_\_ Copy of Human Subject clearance in file: Y / N

Date(s): General Thesis Topic or Research Paper topics Approved by Advisory Committee: \_\_\_\_\_

Thesis Proposal Title, or Research Paper titles: \_\_\_\_\_

Date(s): Thesis Proposal or Paper titles confirmed by DGS/G501 Instructor (initials): \_\_\_\_\_

**THIRD SEMESTER:**

Date: Research Presented: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Presentation: \_\_\_\_\_

**FOURTH SEMESTER:**

Date: submitted application for degree form: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: submitted copy of thesis to committee: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Oral Defense: \_\_\_\_\_

Advisory Committee decision: \_\_\_ Pass \_\_\_ Fail \_\_\_ Pass w/recommendation to admit to Ph.D. program.

Thesis, or MA papers, supplied to Geography & Map Library: \_\_\_\_\_