

# **First Year Requirements for Graduate Students**

## **Department of Earth and Space Sciences – Research Program**

### **Graduate Program Advising**

An advisor and two faculty members will be appointed by the Graduate Program Coordinator to form a First Year Committee for each student on entry to the graduate program, based on the student's interests and the faculty's expertise and availability. The new student should meet with his/her committee soon after arrival to set up a first-year curriculum appropriate to his/her individual needs. Regular discussions should take place between the student and his/her advisor. The full Committee should meet with the student at least twice during the first year to assess the student's progress and plans (once in Autumn Quarter, and once at the end of Winter Quarter). Note: Since the initial matching of student and advisor is based on limited information, changing advisors may be appropriate in certain cases. Any student who is considering changing advisors must consult with the Graduate Program Coordinator.

Each year at the end of fall quarter, all new and continuing graduate students are required to prepare and submit an “Annual Progress Update” form. This document is prepared by the student in consultation with the student’s adviser and includes the student’s Financial Aid Request for the following academic year. This financial aid request applies only to fall-winter-spring quarters. Financial support for summer is negotiated directly between student and advisor. A very limited number of Summer TA positions may be available. An announcement of Summer TA positions will occur in Spring. Any Graduate School RA's and, with rare exceptions, any Department Fellowship/RA awards must also be used during Fall, Winter or Spring quarters.

### **Graduate Program Requirements**

As the Department of Earth and Space Sciences encourages interdisciplinary courses of study tailored to each student, there are few formal requirements for the M.S. or Ph.D. degrees beyond those specified by the Graduate School. You can find the current requirements at [http://www.ess.washington.edu/ess/education/grad/ess-GradGuide.html#\\_Courses](http://www.ess.washington.edu/ess/education/grad/ess-GradGuide.html#_Courses)

In addition, departmental requirements for first year graduate students in the Earth and Space Sciences research program:

- Courses determined in consultation with the student’s First Year Committee to insure both depth and breadth
- ESS 594 Introduction to ESS Research, Autumn and Spring of the first year
- ESS 599 ESS Seminar, every quarter (except summer)
- Prelim Exam (see below)
- ESS 590 Geology Teaching Seminar in Autumn if you plan on being a TA

Additional information from the department can be found online at

<http://www.ess.washington.edu/ess/education/grad/ess-GradGuide.html>

The Student Services Office also serves as a resource for students at [essadv@uw.edu](mailto:essadv@uw.edu) .