

FALL 2023 THESIS DEFENSE TIMELINE

For more information on Graduate School forms and deadlines, please see your *Master's Thesis Defense Checklist*. These checklists can be found on the graduate program website.

Friday, September 2

Final date to apply for graduation on Athena. Your [Advisory Committee form](#) and final [Program of Study form](#) must be submitted to the Graduate School by this date.

Wednesday, October 18

Final date to submit a complete draft of your thesis to your major professor. You and your major professor then have two weeks to make any needed revisions before a final copy is distributed to the committee. We assume that you have been working closely with your major professor and your committee for quite some time, but by this time you should have put together a complete draft.

Monday, October 30

Final date to electronically submit one complete copy of your thesis for a [format check](#) on the Graduate School website. Format check and final submission are routed through ProQuest.

Wednesday, November 1

Final date to distribute the final copy of your thesis to your committee members. Your committee has two weeks to read your thesis before deciding whether you are ready to defend. The committee may also request changes before the defense takes place. Although a defense time and date will be reserved soon after distribution, please be aware that this might be canceled or rescheduled if your committee does not approve your thesis for a defense.

Wednesday, November 15

Absolute last day the Graduate Program Administrator will schedule a defense. The committee may request changes before final approval.

Wednesday, November 22 (please note that this is during Thanksgiving Break)

Final date to submit the [Approval Form for Master's Thesis and Final Oral Examination](#) and [final copy of your thesis](#) to the Graduate School for a December graduation. "Final" means that all suggested changes have been made and approved by your major professor.