

Satisfactory Progress for Graduate Students in the Department of Atmospheric Sciences

Course Credit and Grade Point Average (GPA) Requirements

A minimum course grade of 2.7 is required for a course to count toward degree requirements and the Graduate School's graded and total credit counts.

The required credits for ATMS and non-ATMS coursework need to be graded. For requirements see: <https://atmos.uw.edu/students/graduate-program/academic-program/curriculum/>

Once a student has satisfied the Department's and Graduate School's minimum requirement for numerically graded credits, additional electives may be taken for a numerical grade, Credit/No Credit (Cr/NC), or Satisfactory/Not Satisfactory (S/NS).

A cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher is required in all courses numbered 400 and above to maintain graduate standing and be eligible for a degree. A quarterly GPA below 3.0 will be reviewed by the Graduate Program Coordinator (GPC) and may result in a warning. If the quarterly GPA continues below 3.0 in subsequent quarters, the student could face academic probation.

Continuous Enrollment Requirements

To maintain graduate status, a student must be enrolled on a full-time or part-time basis or be in "On-Leave" status during the academic year (excluding summer) from the time of first enrollment in the Graduate School until completion of all requirements for the graduate degree. Failure to maintain either continuous enrollment or On-Leave status constitutes evidence that the student has resigned from the Graduate School.

A full-time load during the academic year is defined as at least 10 credits each quarter. RAs and TAs are required to take at least 10 credits in autumn, winter and spring quarters and 2 credits in summer quarter during the quarters they are in their position. A student must enroll in a minimum of 2 credits in the quarter in which they graduate whether or not they are an RA or TA.

On-Leave Status (Requesting a Leave of Absence)

Graduate students are required to maintain graduate status during their program of study. If a student plans to be away from the university (not registered) in any quarter other than summer, they must:

- Notify their faculty adviser and the academic adviser
- Apply for On-Leave status. Eligibility requirements, policies, and procedures for requesting On-Leave status are explained here: <https://grad.uw.edu/policies-procedures/graduate-school-memoranda/memo-9-on-leave-policy-to-maintain-graduate-student-status/>

Failure to maintain graduate status through registration or an approved request for On-Leave status effectively ends a student's continuation in the Department. To return requires a formal application to the Graduate School, approval by the Department, and a \$250 fee to obtain reinstatement.

Satisfactory Progress

To make satisfactory progress toward a graduate degree, a student must meet all prescribed requirements and deadlines during each academic quarter, outlined below and in the *Graduate School*

Memorandum No. 16 ("Academic Performance and Progress"), available at:
<https://grad.uw.edu/policies-procedures/graduate-school-memoranda/memo-16-academic-performance-and-progress/>

A graduate student bears the responsibility for registering for appropriate courses and their own academic performance. Students should regularly consult with their main advisor and committee members as they follow the procedures and evaluation criteria to proceed to their degree. Students must pass evaluation by the [Committee on Graduate Studies \(COGS\)](#) to continue to the PhD. Once past COGS, the main advisor and supervisory committee determine if appropriate progress is being made. The [General Exam](#) must be taken no later than one year after admission into the PhD program unless an alternative timeline was established by COGS.

If the committee concludes that the academic performance and/or progress is not proceeding appropriately, the GPC may request that a warning, probation, final probation, or "drop" letter be sent to the student from the Graduate School Office after approval by the Dean of the Graduate School.

A student will not be making satisfactory progress if:

- 1) They are on academic probation for more than one quarter (whether or not the quarters are consecutive);
- 2) Their supervisory committee has, by consensus, determined that the student is not progressing adequately in their courses, or thesis/dissertation research, and has provided documentation as such.