GEOLOGY, MS

for the degree of Master of Science in Geology

head of department: Craig Lundstrom
director of graduate studies: Lijun Liu
department website: https://www.geology.illinois.edu/ (http://www.geology.illinois.edu/)
college website: https://las.illinois.edu/
overview of graduate college admissions & requirements: https://grad.illinois.edu/admissions/apply (https://grad.illinois.edu/admissions/apply/)
department contact: Lana Holben
department office: 3028 Natural History Building, 1301 W. Green Street, Urbana, IL 61801
phone: (217) 333-3540
e-mail: holben@illinois.edu

Students in the Master of Science program can follow the "standard" (or thesis) option or the "applied geology" (or non-thesis) option. The non-thesis option is intended as a terminal degree for students preparing for professional work in environmental and engineering geology or in applied geophysics and who have already been admitted to the program. We do not currently accept new students for the non-thesis master’s degree. Admitted students must declare their intent to pursue the non-thesis option at least one semester prior to completing degree requirements.

Graduate Degree Programs in Geology

Geology, MS (p. 1)
Environmental Geology, MS (online) (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/las/environmental-geology-ms/)
Geology, PhD (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/las/geology-phd/)

The Department of Geology offers programs leading to the Master of Science in Geology and the Doctor of Philosophy in Geology. Students have a wide variety of choices in their courses and research programs. Departmental research programs include many aspects of geology, geochemistry, and geophysics.

Admission

The admission requirements of the Graduate College apply. In addition, scores for the aptitude test of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) are required for admission to graduate work in geology, as well as completion of at least one year each of study in college-level calculus, chemistry, and physics. For more information, write to the department contact. Under special circumstances, students can be admitted at the beginning of the spring term.

Graduate Teaching Experience

Although teaching is not a general Graduate College requirement, experience in teaching is considered an important part of the graduate experience in this program.

Financial Aid

Candidates for graduate degrees are usually supported through fellowships, research assistantships, teaching assistantships, or work-study programs. Fellowships and assistantships include tuition and service fee waivers. Awards for financial assistance are based principally on a candidate’s academic record, statement of plans, and letters of reference. Continuation of financial aid depends on student performance and, in the case of teaching assistants, on the receipt of good evaluations. Some assistants are appointed by the State Geological Survey located on campus.