

Master of Science Degree Requirements

The Department follows the Institute requirement for a Master of Science (SM) degree. The student must have satisfactorily completed a program of study of at least 66 units of graduate level subjects, approved by the department in which s/he is enrolled. If 34 units of graduate level subjects and the thesis are in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, the degree will be recommended with specification in this program.

In the following document you will find specific information pertaining to:

1/ Responsible Conduct of Research

2/ Thesis Supervision

3/ Research Requirement and 1.THG

4/ Content of Master's Thesis

5/ Thesis Submission

Responsible Conduct of Research

Each SM student is required to complete MIT's online course on the Responsible Conduct of Research within the first year, i.e. by the end of Spring term AY1. If you are paid on an NSF grant, you are required to complete the course within 60 days of being assigned to the grant. You can access the course from this web site and following the instructions below. You will need an MIT certificate.

<http://osp.mit.edu/compliance/responsible-conduct-of-research-rcr/register-for-rcr-training>

1. On the bottom of the page, click on "accessing the site for the first time"

Quickcards

Quickcards in PDF format for RCR training can be downloaded here.

Accessing the CITI site for the first time



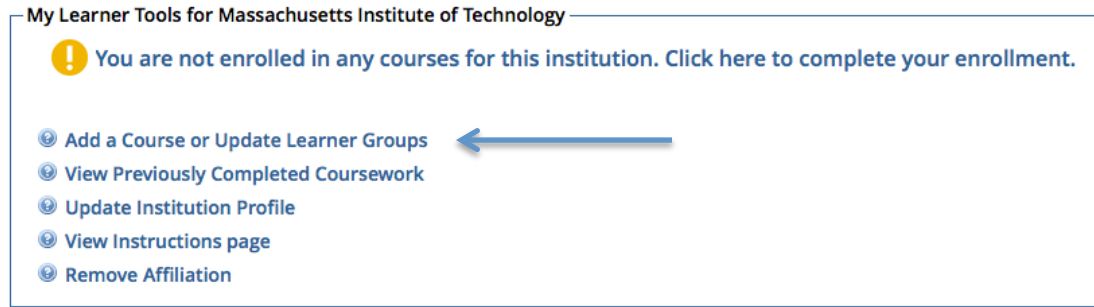
Accessing CITI for additional training

Affiliating CITI training with MIT

2. From there CITI will ask you to create a password.

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3. After you have created your new password, click on “Add a course or Update Learner Group”



4. Go to question 4 and select, RCR for Engineers

5. You should then see that the course has been added

Massachusetts Institute of Technology Courses		
Course	Status	Completion Report
Responsible Conduct of Research for Engineers	Not Started	Not Earned

6. Complete The Integrity Assurance Statement before beginning the course

7. Once you have completed the course (12 modules with 80% or better on the individual quizzes) send a screen shot of your completion report to the graduate academic administrator, Kiley Clapper (kclapper@mit.edu).

Thesis Supervision

A student’s thesis supervisor can be a 1/MIT CEE Faculty member(s), 2/CEE Senior Research Scientist/Engineer, or a student can be 3/ co-advised by a CEE and other MIT faculty member. A thesis supervisor is responsible for certifying and signing the thesis. In the case of co-supervisors, both must certify and sign thesis.

Research Requirement and 1.THG

Research plays an integral role in the SM degree, and this research effort is tracked academically through enrollment in 1.THG. In Course 1, we require graduate students to register for 1.THG every semester. The 1.THG units should fill in the semester load to equal 48 units (a full subject load), but with a minimum of 12 units 1.THG in a given semester. The number of credit hours is determined in consultation with your advisor. Through enrollment in 1.THG, students are formally graded on research performance each semester, in accordance with MIT Faculty Rules and Regulations 2.62.3. <http://web.mit.edu/faculty/governance/rules/2.60.html>

Content of Master's Thesis

A Master of Science Thesis must provide a comprehensive description of a substantial research project. The thesis must include the following elements:

- 1) a clear description of and motivation for a specific research question or objective;
- 2) a description of the methods used to address the research question or objective;
- 3) a detailed presentation of results;
- 4) a discussion of results with comparisons made to similar studies/data/models in the literature; and
- 5) a conclusion chapter describing implications, new questions raised, and future directions.

If appropriate, the SM thesis may be comprised of a collection of accepted and/or submitted journal and/or conference papers. The thesis author must be the first author on at least one of the submitted/accepted papers. In addition to the individual papers, the thesis **MUST ALSO** include:

- 1) an introductory chapter that covers the topic in more detail than the introduction of a paper;
- 2) a conclusion chapter discusses of how the work impacts the field
- 3) an appendix which includes (as appropriate) annotated tables with raw data collected during the experiments; more detailed description of experimental set up and methods; copy of numerical code

Checklist for Submission of Master of Science Thesis

MIT has three degree-granting cycles per year: February, June and September. Approaching the time when you will submit your thesis, you should register to be on the appropriate degree list. To register for the degree list go to student.mit.edu, select "online degree application" and follow the instructions. Once registered for the degree list you will receive a detailed email from the Graduate Administrator outlining the steps needed to complete your degree.

Submitting your Thesis to the Academic Programs Office

You are required to submit two signed copies of your thesis printed on acid-neutral or archival bond paper, by 5 pm the day of the department's deadline. Check with the Graduate Academic Administrator to find out the date for your degree list. Reminder, Graduate Academic Administrator will be responsible for retrieving the signature of the Chair of the Graduate Program Committee, please do not contact him/her directly. The copies must be unbound but secured between heavy cardboard covers with a binder clip. The front cardboard cover of each thesis copy should feature a photocopy of the top half of your thesis signature page (from the copyright up). You may simply tape or glue it on.

Congratulations! You have finished!

We look forward to seeing you at commencement. Please let us know where you are headed next by filling out the Graduate Student Exit Form: <http://cee.mit.edu/graduate/exitform>