REGULATIONS AND PROCEDURES FOR NON-THESIS MASTER’S GRADUATE DEGREES

University Degree Requirements for Non-Thesis Master’s Degrees

Students also may pursue a non-thesis master’s degree in certain departments. This degree would be based on alternative departmental requirements and would include, but not be limited to, the following:

- A minimum of 30 credit hours of graduate-level study (coursework at the 500-level and above).
- A minimum of 24 credit hours must be taken at Rice University.
- A minimum residency enrollment of one fall or spring semester of full-time graduate study at Rice University. (Exceptions include some specific non-thesis master’s programs in the schools of engineering, natural sciences, and social sciences (and the Master’s of Liberal Studies program in the school of continuing studies). For these programs, the minimum residency requirement is one fall or spring semester in full-time or part-time graduate study.)
- All courses taken must be in the relevant field.

Time to Degree

All master’s students are required to complete their program within five years of initial enrollment. This time boundaries includes any period in which the student was not enrolled or enrolled part time, for whatever reason. Failure to meet any university time to degree deadline may result in the student not being able to continue in their degree program.

Other Requirements

There are other additional requirements, regulations and procedures for all graduate programs. They are found under Graduate Students > Academic Policies and Procedures > All Graduate Students, or can be accessed directly here (ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/regulations-procedures-all-degrees).