

CEOAS Undergraduate Thesis Credits
ATS/ENSC/GEO/GEOG/OC 403

CEOAS undergraduate thesis credit is granted for independent, original study guided by an OSU faculty member (assistant, associate, or full professor*) resulting in a senior thesis. Thesis credit is taken when students have completed or are close to completing their research and are preparing to write their thesis. This course is repeatable up to 4 times for a maximum of 24 credits. Students who elect to seek thesis credit incur regular tuition costs. Students are assigned credit based on their major and the number of hours they are involved with writing a thesis. As with other coursework, one hour of credit represents 30 hours of focused academic work. Credit is not awarded retroactively for work done previously. Thesis credit is graded on an A-F basis and it is the responsibility of the thesis advisor to assign a grade each term the student is enrolled in credit.

Undergraduate Thesis Guidelines:

1. The student must enroll in a minimum of 3 credits of Thesis. Students wishing to register for thesis credit must fill out the Undergraduate Thesis Agreement form (second page). Submit the completed form to Andrea Nelson, the Experiential Learning Coordinator, located in 104 Wilkinson Hall. Once received, an override will be granted allowing the student to register for credit.
2. The student's thesis will be written in the style of a manuscript submitted to an academic journal in the particular field of inquiry. The student and thesis advisor will select an appropriate journal. The thesis advisor will determine the length and number of tables/figures. The final thesis must be a document that is acceptable to the advisor.
3. The student must present the results of the research in a public forum, such as Geology & Geophysics Day, Geography Day, Celebrating Undergraduate Excellence, or another student symposium showcasing research. The presentation, poster, or talk can be thought of as a thesis defense. If, alternatively, the thesis advisor wants the student to have a formal defense, the student and advisor can plan and schedule a public meeting for the presentation.
4. Note that the [University Honors College](#) and the [International Degree](#) have their own thesis requirements (format, defense, deadlines, etc...). It is the student's responsibility to be aware of these requirements.

Students: For more information on undergraduate research at OSU and steps for finding a thesis advisor please see the Undergraduate Research, Scholarship, and the Arts (URSA) website at: <http://oregonstate.edu/students/research/finding-mentor>

Faculty: For information on mentoring undergraduate students and how to ensure a successful research partnership please see the URSA faculty website at: <http://oregonstate.edu/students/research/mentoring-undergraduates>

***Transcript Notation:** OSU now offers students who complete a research project/thesis with an OSU professor the opportunity to get this notated on their official transcript as a "Research Fellow" or an "Arts Fellow", as appropriate. Please note that for transcript notation, mentors must be members of the OSU research/graduate faculty (assistant, associate, or full professors). These are people who are either on a tenure track or are tenured. Faculty with the title of "Research Assistant Professor", "Research Associate Professor", or "Research Professor" are not allowed to serve as mentors. In general, instructors will also not qualify to serve as mentors. Senior Instructors, with prior approval, may serve as mentors. For more information and how to apply: <http://oregonstate.edu/students/research/>

If you have any questions about thesis credit, finding a thesis advisor, or want to post an undergraduate research opportunity to the CEOAS undergraduate listserv please contact the CEOAS Experiential Learning Coordinator, Andrea Nelson, Andrea.Nelson@oregonstate.edu or by phone at 541-737-1201.



College of Earth, Ocean, and Atmospheric Sciences
Oregon State University
104 CEOAS Administration Building
Corvallis, OR 97331-5503

Undergraduate Thesis Agreement

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Student

Name: _____ Student ID#: _____

Major and Option: _____ Dept. if not CEOAS: _____

ONID email: _____ Phone: _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Thesis Advisor

Name and Title: _____ Faculty ID# _____

College/Program: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

Advisor Signature: _____ Date: _____

Describe the thesis. Topic/objectives/hypothesis? Journal format?

Describe the expectations of the both the student and major professor. Timeline for drafts and final paper? Length?

Thesis Period (Start and End dates): _____

Course Enrolled: _____ Term(s) enrolled: _____ Number of credits (3 min.): _____

*1 credit = 30 hours of work

Estimated Total Hours: _____

The student and thesis advisor should each retain a copy of this agreement for their own records. **Submit a copy of the completed Thesis Agreement to Andrea Nelson, the CEOAS Experiential Learning Coordinator.** Once this form is received, an override will be granted and the student can register for thesis credit.

Office: CEOAS Student Services, 104 Wilkinson Hall

Email: Andrea.Nelson@oregonstate.edu