

Steps to Completing Your Degree

1. Have a Plan of Study approved by the Graduate School.
2. Enroll in at least three credit hours in your final semester unless you qualify for SSDE (Start of Semester Defense Exception).
3. Submit your application for degree (the Degree or Certificate Conferral request) in HokieSPA.
4. For master's students completing theses and for doctoral students: Submit your final exam request at least two weeks before the exam date. For non-thesis master's students: Submit your final evaluation request at least two weeks before the exam date.
5. Defend your thesis or dissertation (if applicable).
6. Submit your ETD for approval by your committee and the Graduate School (if applicable).
7. Participate in commencement (optional).
8. Receive your diploma by mail.