



**Time Limits for Graduate Degree Completion # 380.080**

<b>INITIAL EFFECTIVE DATE:</b> June 2012	<b>LAST REVISION DATE:</b> February 26, 2026	<b>RESPONSIBLE UNIVERSITY DIVISION/DEPARTMENT</b> University Graduate School
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**POLICY STATEMENT**

Doctoral students must complete their degree within nine years of first enrollment. All work used to meet degree requirements, including coursework and the successful defense of a dissertation, must be completed within the nine years prior to degree conferral. Some doctoral programs may require a shorter time to degree.

Students in Specialist programs must complete their degree requirements within six years of first enrollment. All work used to meet degree requirements must be completed within six years of degree conferral.

Master of Fine Arts student must complete their degree requirements within eight years of first enrollment. All work used to meet degree requirements, including coursework and the successful defense of a thesis, must be completed within the eight years prior to degree conferral.

All other master’s students must complete their degree requirements within six years. All work used to meet degree requirements, including coursework and the successful defense of a thesis, must be completed within the six years prior to degree conferral.

An approved leave of absence does not affect the time limits for degree completion.

**SCOPE**

Faculty, graduate students, and University Graduate School administration.

**REASON FOR POLICY**

This policy sets forth the time limits for doctoral students, students in specialist programs and masters students to complete their degree requirements.



DEFINITIONS	
TERM	DEFINITIONS
N/A	N/A

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES
N/A

RELATED RESOURCES
Policy #280.048 Leave of Absence from a Graduate Program

CONTACTS
<p style="text-align: center;">University Graduate School  Modesto A. Maidique Campus  11200 SW Eighth Street - Marc 430  Miami, Florida 33199  Telephone: (305) 348-2455</p>

HISTORY
<p><b>Initial Effective Date:</b> Originally 3.6 TIME LIMITS TO GRADUATION (effective 12/7/04) from Graduate Policies and Procedures Manual.  <b>Review Dates</b> (<i>review performed, no updates</i>): January 31, 2024  <b>Revision Dates</b> (<i>updates made to document</i>): March 9, 2023; February 26, 2026.</p>