PhD Geophysics Course Requirements

Requirements for the Degree—A minimum of 135 units of graduate study at Stanford must be satisfactorily completed. All courses used to fulfill requirements for the Ph.D. in Geophysics must be LECTURE courses taken for a LETTER GRADE (unless CR/NC is the only option offered). Geophysics courses used to fulfill requirements for the Ph.D. must be taught by Geophysics faculty (or senior academic staff, if supervised by a faculty member). Lecture courses on geophysical topics taught by visiting faculty can only be counted as fulfilling a Geophysics requirement if approved in advance by the Department Chair and the Director of Graduate Studies. Students are required to attend the department seminars, and to complete sufficient units of independent work on a research problem to meet the 135-unit University requirement. 12 units must be met by participation in the GEOPHYS 385 series, or equivalent series in other departments with approval of the adviser and graduate coordinator. Students are encouraged to participate in the GEOPHYS 385 series from more than one faculty member or group and relevant equivalent series in other departments. Students with a Master's degree may waive up to 12 units for approved courses. ENGR 102W/202W, Technical Writing, is recommended but not required.

The student's record must indicate outstanding scholarship, and deficiencies in previous training must be removed. Experience as a teaching assistant (quarter-time for at least two academic quarters) is required for the Ph.D. degree. For more information, see the Geophysics Administrative Guide, section 1.4.1. The student must pass the departmental oral examination by the end of the sixth academic quarter (third academic quarter for students with an M.S. degree); prepare under faculty supervision a dissertation that is a contribution to knowledge and the result of independent work expressed in satisfactory form; and pass the University oral examination. The Ph.D. dissertation must be submitted in its final form within five calendar years from the date of admission to candidacy. Upon formal acceptance into a research group, the student and faculty adviser form a supervising committee consisting of at least three members who are responsible for overseeing satisfactory progress toward the Ph.D. degree. At least two committee members must be Geophysics faculty members. The committee conducts the department oral examination, and meets thereafter annually with the student to review degree progress. The Geophysics faculty monitors progress of all students who have not yet passed their department oral examination by carrying out an annual performance appraisal at a closed faculty meeting.

Course requirements—

1. Geophysics*—12 units, lecture courses numbered 200+, from 4 different Geophysics faculty with different research specializations.
   
   Course#/Faculty ____________________ Units: ___ Course#/Faculty ____________________ Units: ___
   
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   Course#/Faculty ____________________ Units: ___ Course#/Faculty ____________________ Units: ___

2. Additional Geophysics—3 units, lecture courses numbered 120+
   
   Course #_________ Units: ___

3. School of Earth Sciences (non-Geophysics)—3 units, lecture courses numbered 100+
   
   Course #_________ Units: ___

4. Mathematics (numbered 100+), Science, and Engineering (non-SE3 courses)—6 units, lecture courses numbered 200+
   
   Course #_________ Units: ___ Course #_________ Units: ___

5. Any of the above categories—6 units, lecture courses numbered 200+
   
   Course #_________ Units: ___ Course #_________ Units: ___

Total: 30 units (*These units marked cannot be waived.)