Geology
PhD

The Geology Graduate Program provides instruction and research opportunities for graduate students in the geological sciences, maintains and develops geological research at UND, and serves the community, state, and region.

**Goal 1**: Graduate students will be able to communicate effectively in writing and through oral presentation.
**Goal 2**: Graduates of our program shall be employable in Earth science professions.
**Goal 3**: Graduate students shall be proficient in recently developed computational, laboratory, and field technology and instrumentation.
**Goal 4**: Graduate students shall be up-to-date concerning current trends in the geological sciences.
**Goal 5**: Graduate students shall have a broad knowledge of geology.
**Goal 6**: Graduate students shall do well in their coursework, demonstrating acquisition of knowledge and skills in the Earth sciences.
**Goal 7**: Graduate students shall have advanced and in-depth training in their chosen field.
**Goal 8**: The faculty who teach and advise geology graduate students shall be actively engaged in research and serve as excellent role models.

**Admission Requirements**

The applicant must meet the School of Graduate Studies’ current minimum general admission requirements as published in the graduate catalog.

1. For admission to the geology Ph.D. program, applicants must hold a bachelor’s degree in geology from an accredited college or university or otherwise demonstrate sufficient coursework, training, or experience in geoscience.
2. For “approved” status, students must have completed a 5-6 credit hour geology field course, along with satisfactory achievement in supporting science and mathematics, as determined by the school’s graduate admissions committee.
3. For all graduate programs in the Harold Hamm School of Geology and Geological Engineering, a cumulative 3.0 or higher grade point average is required.
4. Submission of a Graduate Record Examination (GRE) general test score is strongly recommended if you do not have a degree in geology. Applicants are encouraged to submit their GRE score to support their application.
5. Satisfy the School of Graduate Studies’ English Language Proficiency requirements as published in the graduate catalog.

Students missing any of the above requirements may be admitted under provisional or qualified status, but all admission requirements must be completed, without graduate credit, within one year after beginning graduate work.

Initial decisions for admission and financial aid are made about March 1 for the fall semester and about September 1 for the spring semester.

**Degree Requirements**

Students seeking the Doctor of Philosophy degree at the University of North Dakota must satisfy all general requirements set forth by the School of Graduate Studies as well as particular requirements set forth by the Harold Hamm School of Geology and Geological Engineering.

*Apply online: http://graduateschool.und.edu*
*Deadlines apply. See our website for more details.*
*Email: questions@gradschool.und.edu*
Students normally take the equivalent of three years of full-time work beyond the master’s degree for the doctorate.

1. Completion of 90 semester credits beyond the baccalaureate degree.
2. Maintenance of at least a 3.0 GPA for all classes completed as a graduate student.
3. With approval of a student’s Faculty Advisory Committee, up to one-half of the work beyond a master’s degree (maximum of 30 semester credit hours) may be transferred from another institution that offers post-master’s degrees in the discipline.
4. A qualifying examination may be required before the end of the student’s first year in a doctoral program.
5. Demonstration of:
   a. proficiency in two foreign languages, or
   b. proficiency in one foreign language and two scholarly tools courses, or
   c. proficiency in four scholarly tools courses (scholarly tools courses typically are advanced undergraduate courses in related fields in mathematics, science, or engineering).
6. Completion of a dissertation, which incorporates independent work that is an original contribution to knowledge.

Faculty and Areas of Expertise
- Nels Forsman, Ph.D., Sedimentary Petrology, Diagenesis, Planetary Geology
- Philip Gerla, Ph.D., Hydrogeology, Environmental Geology, Wetlands, Geographic Information Systems
- William D. Gosnold, Ph.D., Heat Flow, Tectonics, Global Change, Isostasy, Structural Geology
- Joseph Hartman, Ph.D., Invertebrate Paleontology, Stratigraphy
- I-Hsuan Ho, Ph.D., Geological Engineering
- Richard LeFever, Ph.D., Sedimentology, Stratigraphy, Basin Analysis
- Taufique Mahmood, Ph.D., Hydrogeology
- Ronald Matheney, Ph.D., Hydrogeochemistry, Isotope Geochemistry, Paleoclimatology
- Stephan Nordeng, Ph.D., Petroleum geology, organic geochemistry
- Dexter Perkins, Ph.D., Metamorphic Petrology, Mineralogy
- Jaakko Putkonen, Ph.D., Geomorphology, Surface Processes, Quaternary Geology
- Dongmei Wang, Ph.D., Geological Engineering

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