

MIT-WHOI Joint Program

Thesis Due Dates for 2025-2026

Degree List	Degree	Defendable Draft Due Date**	Recommended Final Defense Date	Final Thesis Due Date*
September '25	Doctoral (AOSE, Bio, ChemOce):	Friday, July 11	Friday, July 25	Friday, August 8
	Doctoral (PO, MGG):	Friday, July 3	Friday, July 25	Friday, August 8
	Masters:			Friday, August 9
February '26	Doctoral (AOSE, Bio, ChemOce):	Friday, Dec 12	Friday, Dec 26	Friday, Jan 9
	Doctoral (PO, MGG):	Friday, Dec 5	Friday, Dec 26	Friday, Jan 9
	Masters:			Friday, Jan 16
June '26	Doctoral (AOSE, Bio, ChemOce):	Friday, April 3	Friday, April 17	Friday, May 1
	Doctoral (PO, MGG):	Friday, March 27	Friday, April 17	Friday, May 1
	Masters:			Friday, May 8

* These are the official MIT deadlines as posted in the Academic Calendar. **You must check with your MIT department for their due date - it may vary.**

For doctoral degrees, it is recommended that your defense take place at least two weeks prior to the final due date.

** Your defendable draft is due at the WHOI Academic Programs Office and your MIT Department (*MIT Biology does not need a defendable draft*):

- two weeks prior to your defense for students guided by the following Joint Committees: *Applied Ocean Science and Engineering, Biological Oceanography, Chemical Oceanography*, (for a total of four weeks prior to the final deadline).
- three weeks prior to your defense for students guided by the following Joint Committees: *Marine Geology and Geophysics, Physical Oceanography* (for a total of five weeks prior to the final deadline).