### THESIS TRACK

**REQUIRED COURSES (4-8 hours):**

- MBIO 5971, Seminar in Microbiology (1 hour course, two credits required)  
- MBIO 5980, Research for Master’s Thesis  

**OUTSIDE COURSES (3 hours):**

A minimum of 3 hours selected from 5000- or 6000-level courses outside the Microbiology program. *Microbiology may use Plant Biology as long as they are not cross-listed.*

**ELECTIVES (19-23 hours):**

Other 5000- and/or 6000-level courses, as approved by advisory committee.

### NON-THESIS TRACK

**REQUIRED COURSES (16 hours):**

- MBIO 5971, Seminar in Microbiology (maximum of one credit required)  
- MBIO 5000- and/or 6000-level courses  

Must be regularly-scheduled classes as approved by the Graduate Advisor

**OUTSIDE COURSES (3 hours):**

A minimum of 3 hours selected from 5000- or 6000-level courses outside the Microbiology program. *Microbiology may use Plant Biology as long as they are not cross-listed.*

**ELECTIVES (13 hours):**

Other 5000- and/or 6000-level courses, as approved by advisory committee.

Non-Thesis students must pass a Comprehensive Written Examination administered by a committee of three faculty (two of whom must be Microbiology faculty) in the last year of study.

### Notes:

- No more than 6 hours of Independent Research may be completed with the same instructor. No more than 12 total hours of Independent Research may be applied to the degree.

- With Department approval, up to 8 hours of transfer credit may be applied to the degree. Courses must have grades of A, B, or S; be less than 5 years old at the time of admission to the program; and not previously applied to a completed degree.

- The master’s degree requires the equivalent of at least two semesters of satisfactory graduate work and additional work as may be prescribed for the degree.

- All coursework applied to the master’s degree must carry graduate credit.

- Master’s degree programs which require a thesis consist of at least 30 credit hours. Credit transferred from other institutions must meet specific criteria and is subject to certain limitations.

- Courses completed through correspondence study may not be applied to the master’s degree.

- To qualify for a graduate degree, students must achieve an overall grade point average of 3.0 or higher in the degree program coursework and in all resident graduate coursework attempted. A student must also have at least a 3.0 in all coursework (including undergraduate coursework if any).

A student who has done satisfactory graduate work and has earned a 3.0 grade point average may file for master’s candidacy.

Program effective SU16. check sheet version 4/2016