The Atmospheric and Oceanic Science Department offers a non-thesis program leading to the Master of Science Degree. This program provides fundamental training to prepare students for research and operational work in the atmospheric and oceanic sciences. Each new student will be assigned to a faculty advisor whose interests parallel those of the student. The faculty advisor will assist in the development of the student's course program and will follow the student's progress thereafter. The student may select an alternate advisor at any time, although financial support is dependent upon the availability of funds.

A minimum of 30 semester hours of coursework is required for the degree program. This must include 24 hours of 600-level AOSC courses, including the listed core courses. The remaining 6 semester-hours can come from additional 600-level courses, including up to 3 from AOSC798.

Students must write a Scholarly Paper in the final semester that demonstrates their ability to conduct original and/or literature-based research. The student's advisor and the Graduate Director will evaluate and approve the Scholarly Paper. Once approved, the student will orally present the scholarly paper findings at the AOSC Student Seminar. Students are additionally required to attend the weekly Department seminars.

The paper will become part of the permanent archive of the Department. A Ph.D. dissertation prospectus will satisfy this requirement but you must use the appropriate scholarly paper format when submitting to the Graduate Director.

All requirements for the M.S. degree must be completed within a five-year period. This time limit applies to any transfer work from other institutions [6 credits maximum] to be included in the student's program. A full-time student can easily complete the M.S. degree in two years.