Botany MSc Timeline - Quick Guide

DISCLAIMER: This Quick Guide is a basic overview of a typical Botany MSc timeline. The guide is meant to complement, not replace, the Botany Graduate Regulations, which describe the following events in greater detail. Graduate students should carefully review the Botany Graduate Regulations and follow up with the Graduate Program Coordinator when questions arise.

**Recommended completion**

**Initial Meeting**
- Within 3 months
- See Graduate Regulation #3
- Meet supervisory committee and discuss research plan
- Consult with supervisory committee about required coursework

**Coursework**
- See Graduate Regulation #5
- 12 credits required (~4 courses), including BOTA501
- If intend to transfer to PhD, then 9 credits must be 500-level

**MSc Defence of Thesis Proposal**
- Within 9-12 months
- See Graduate Regulation #6
- Submit MSc Thesis proposal to supervisory committee at least 1 week before Defence
- Meeting chaired by Research Supervisor
- Supervisory committee will attend
- Deliver 20 minute oral presentation
- Defend Proposal! Signed forms submitted to Alice upon completion

**OPTIONAL: Transfer to PhD Candidacy Exam**
- Within 12-18 months
- See Graduate Regulation #8
- Ask supervisor and supervisory committee about transferring
- Ensure that coursework requirements are completed
- Ensure that MSc thesis proposal has been defended
- Select 2 external and 2 supervisory examiners
- Contact Graduate Advisor about chairing exam
- Submit Proposed Examiner Form to Alice before scheduling the exam
- Submit PhD Thesis Proposal to supervisory committee for approval
- PhD Thesis Proposal approval forms submitted to Alice
- Revised and approved PhD Thesis Proposal submitted to all examiners
- Exam! Graduate Advisor submits paperwork to Alice
- (If exam isn't passed, student remains in MSc stream)

**Annual progress meetings**
- At least once every 12 months
- See Graduate Regulation #9

**Schedule Exit Seminar (BOTA502) during final year**
- Schedule this at least 6 months in advance

**Defence of MSc Thesis**
- Generally within 24 months
- See Graduate Regulation #10a
- Select 1 external and 2 supervisory examiners
- Submit Proposed Examiner Form to Alice before scheduling the Defence
- Contact Graduate Advisor about chairing Defence
- Submit MSc Thesis to supervisory committee for approval
- MSc Thesis approval forms submitted to Alice
- Circulate thesis to all examiners, including external examiners
- Defend MSc Thesis
- Revise MSc Thesis according to examiner recommendations
- Submit revised MSc Thesis to supervisory committee for approval, if required
- Submit Final MSc Thesis to Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies
- Congratulations on completing your MSc Program!