

Graduates from the M.S. program in Geology will have acquired:

(KSU knowledge & critical thinking groups):

1. An understanding of geology, at least equivalent to successful completion of standard undergraduate courses in mineralogy, petrology, structural geology, stratigraphy and sedimentation.
2. An understanding of mathematics, at least equivalent to the successful completion of one semester of calculus, and an appreciation for the collection and evaluation of quantitative data.
3. A knowledge of at least one specialized branch of the geological sciences, to a level well above that expected for the B.S. or B.A. degrees in geology.
4. The ability to work and think independently, crucial to a career in the geological sciences, as demonstrated by either (1) advanced work in advanced courses in the geosciences, sufficient to satisfy the non-thesis degree requirements, or (2) the satisfactory design, completion and defense of a research thesis in the geological sciences.

(KSU communications group):

5. The ability to communicate facts and ideas, in a professional and convincing manner, orally, visually, and in writing, to English-speaking audiences.
6. An advanced level of competence in information search and exchange, using both print and electronic resources.

(KSU diversity group):

7. The ability to work effectively with others, on short-term projects and toward long-term goals.
8. An understanding of the challenges involved in the application of a global science to a multinational world.

(KSU ownership of learning group):

9. An advanced level of understanding of the ethical and legal problems involved in information exchange, including accuracy, intellectual property rights, and plagiarism.
10. An appreciation for the advantages of networking with others, including membership in professional societies and participation in their activities.
11. A recognition of the obligations of professionals in geoscience to participate in public affairs, to offer their expertise where appropriate, and to continually strive to improve public awareness of the importance of the geosciences to society.