**MS Biology Program Overview**

**School of Systems Biology**

**Graduate Coursework**
(see catalog for specific degree requirement)

**Register** each semester for courses (use first-year plan as guide)

**Create Program of Study** (in consultation with temporary faculty advisor) and submit to **Graduate Coordinator** (GC). Due end of first semester (revise as needed)

**Research** – decide if you wish to complete project or thesis. Selection of project requires summary, oral and written comprehensive exams. Thesis requires written proposal, public defense and library submission

**Form a Committee** in consultation with Committee Chair (submit Graduate Committee Formation form to GC).

**Master's Research Project**
(committee must approve project prior to registering for BIOL 798)

**Written Comp Exam** (created by committee, 1-day in-person exam)

**Oral Comp Exam** (answer follow-up questions in front of committee)

**Submit Project Report** to committee chair for grade

**Present oral or poster at Student Research Day**

**Thesis** (committee must approve proposal prior to registering for BIOL 799, continuous enrollment through graduation)

**Format** meeting with Library (see SSB website for submission deadlines)

**Request room reservation** from SSB Admin Assistant. Upon room confirmation send public defense announcement info to GC (request an announcement template)

**Oral Final Defense** (announcement required 2 weeks prior)

**Finalize Thesis** – obtain signatures from committee, SSB Director, and COS Dean

**Don’t forget to apply to graduate**

**You are Done – Congratulations!**

Considering a change of concentration? See Program Director/Graduate Coordinator.