

Thesis Due Dates for 2026-2027

Degree List	Degree	Defendable Draft Due Date**	Recommended Final Defense Date	Final Thesis Due Date*
September '26	Doctoral	Friday, July 10, 2026 or Friday, July 3, 2026	Friday, July 24, 2026	Friday, August 7, 2026
	Master's			Friday, August 7, 2026
February '27	Doctoral	Wednesday, Dec 9, 2026 or Wednesday, Dec 2, 2026	Wednesday Dec 23, 2026	Friday, January 8, 2027
	Master's			Friday, January 15, 2027
June '27	Doctoral	Friday, April 2, 2027 or Friday, March 26, 2027	Friday, April 16, 2027	Friday, April 30, 2027
	Master's			Friday, May 7, 2027

* These are the official MIT deadlines as posted in the Academic Calendar. **You must check with your MIT department for their due date - it may vary.**

For doctoral degrees, it is recommended that your defense take place at least two weeks prior to the final due date.

** Your defendable draft is due at the WHOI Academic Programs Office and your MIT Department (MIT Biology does not need a defendable draft):

- two weeks prior to your defense for students guided by the following Joint Committees: Applied Ocean Science and Engineering, Biological Oceanography, Chemical Oceanography (for a total of four weeks prior to the final deadline).
- three weeks prior to your defense for students guided by the following Joint Committees: Marine Geology and Geophysics, Physical Oceanography (for a total of five weeks prior to the final deadline).