

**Roadmap for M.S. Atmospheric Sciences**  
**Department of Atmospheric Sciences**  
**College of Natural Science and Mathematics**  
**University of Alaska Fairbanks**

**Year 1**

Fall	Spring	Summer
ATM 601 (Required by all) ATM 613 (Core) Thesis/Research Credits	ATM 615 (Core) ATM elective class Thesis/Research Credits	Research towards thesis

**Year 2**

Fall	Spring	Summer
ATM 645 (Core) ATM elective class Thesis/Research Credits	ATM 646 (Core) ATM elective class and Thesis/Research Credits	Finish thesis writing Oral Thesis Defense

**1. Coursework Key**

- a) **Core Courses** except for ATM 601 are taught in a two-year cycle, i.e. depending on in which year a student enters the program they either start with the core courses of year 1 or 2. All start out with ATM 601 in the fall of the year they entered the program.
    - ATM 601 Introduction to Atmospheric Sciences (Required by all) Other required core courses (choose three out of the four)
    - Cloud Physics (ATM 615)
    - Atmospheric Radiation (ATM 613)
    - Atmospheric Dynamics (ATM 645)
    - Atmospheric Dynamics II: Climate Dynamic (ATM 646)
  - b) **Elective Courses**
    - ATM offers various elective courses or students may take elective courses relevant for their research in other departments.
2. **Thesis** – write a coherent document about the research, and present an oral defense to graduate committee.

**Comments:** Two school years is a standard time for completion of the MS degree. Students who do not do research during the summers will take longer to complete their theses. Also note that ATM 613 is offered during Fall of odd years, while ATM 645 is offered in Fall of even years. Depending on when the student starts the program they may take 645 or 613 their first fall. Similarly, due to alternate year offerings, students will take ATM 609 or 646 first depending on when they begin the program.