

Master's Examination Procedures

To graduate from the MSWE program, students must successfully complete the master's examination (please see the Graduate School Handbook Section 6.2 <https://gradsch.osu.edu/handbook/all#6-2>). For the Online Non-Thesis MSWE program, the master's examination includes a written portion and an oral portion. The final report from the WE 7193 Individual Study Project is used for the written portion. The oral portion includes the WE 7193 Individual Study final report presentation followed by questions from the Master's Examination Committee on the project and coursework. The final presentation is limited to 30 minutes and the total duration of the oral exam should not exceed two hours.

At the beginning of the graduation semester (or earlier), please work with your advisor to select four courses that you took that are most relevant to your project or expertise that you may be tested on during the oral examination. Please note that at least two of the four courses must be either primary or secondary core courses.

At the beginning of the graduation semester (or earlier), please work with your advisor to identify one other Welding Engineering faculty member to serve on your Master's Examination Committee. That faculty member may have expertise related to your project or may have been an instructor for one or more of the courses that you selected. The name of that faculty member is submitted in the Application to Graduate, which must be approved by the advisor and the Chair of the Graduate Studies Committee by the third Friday of the semester.

As mentioned earlier, the WE 7193 Individual Study final report is used for the written portion of the Master's Examination. At least one week prior to the oral exam, the student must complete and submit a formal written final draft report on their project. The report is limited to 20 pages including figures and tables, but references and appendices may extend beyond the 20-page limit. To deter plagiarism, the final report will be reviewed by **TurnItIn.com** for originality. Finally, the report should follow the American Welding Society guidelines for a research paper:
<https://www.editorialmanager.com/wj/account/Author%20Submission%20Guidelines.pdf>

Note: If the Master's Examination committee determines that the draft is of poor quality, then they may postpone the final presentation and defense until an acceptable draft is provided by the student.

To be able to graduate in the graduation semester, the oral exam must be completed by the examination report deadline that is provided on the Graduate School Graduation Calendar (<https://gradsch.osu.edu/calendar/graduation>). And the final report, including any revisions that are requested by the Master's Examination Committee, must be submitted by the last day of classes.

Students' that are not able to complete the project and Master's Exam in time may elect to use the End-of-Semester deadline, which allows for completion of all the requirements by the last business day prior to the first day of classes for the following term. In that case, the official graduation date will be the following semester without registering or paying fees.

Successful completion of the master's exam requires both a satisfactory grade on the written report and satisfactory performance in the oral exam. If the exam is evaluated by the Master's Examination Committee to be unsatisfactory, then they may permit the student to take a second exam during the next term; the student will need to enroll for at least 3 credit hours during the term of the second exam.