

**APPENDIX A:  
SAMPLE SYLLABUS FOR GEOLOGY DEPARTMENT SENIOR THESES**

**Student:** STUDENT NAME (studentname@lafayette.edu)

**Advisor:** PROFESSOR NAME (professorname@lafayette.edu)

**Meetings:** DATE/TIME

**GEOL 495/496 Senior Thesis:** TITLE

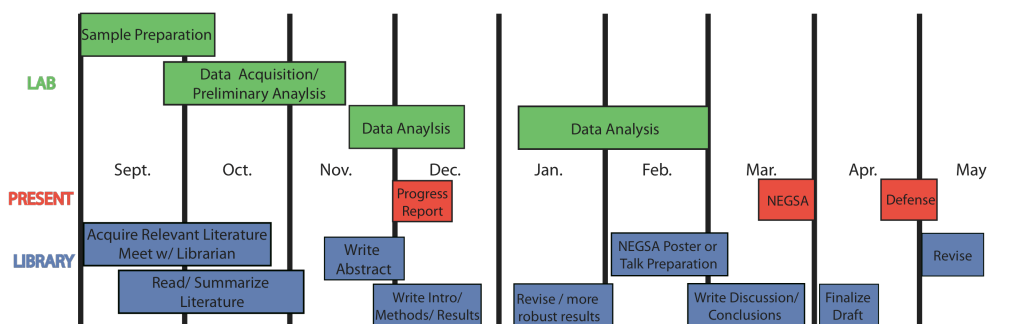
**Statement of Objectives:** What contribution will your study make (i.e. goal) and how do you propose to accomplish the work (i.e. methodology).

**Major Deliverables:** NEGSA poster (March) (recommended but not required)

Senior thesis presentation (late April or early May)

Senior thesis research paper typically ~30-50 pages (by end of spring semester)

**Schedule:** Below is a rough timeline of the laboratory (or field), presentation, and library tasks you will need to accomplish to successfully complete your senior thesis.



**Major Deadlines:**

- Literature Review (annotated bibliography) to advisor (by early November) (3-5 sentence summaries of each relevant paper)
- Submitted NEGSA abstract early December (recommended not required)
- Oral Progress Report Presentation to department (last brown bag of fall semester)
- Initial draft of introduction, methods and preliminary results w/ summary figures (by the end of exam period first semester)
- More robust results (by early February)
- NEGSA Poster or Talk Draft (by the first week of March)
- Final NEGSA Poster or Talk (by Friday before NEGSA)
- Attend and present at NEGSA (mid March)
- Discussion and preliminary conclusions to advisor (by end of March)
- Complete Draft to Advisor (by early April)
- Complete Draft to Committee at least one week before final presentation
- Final Revisions (by College Deadline early to mid May)

**Grading Criteria (note these percentages may vary depending on advisor):**

Fall Semester: Bibliography (20%), Oral Progress Report (40%) Initial Draft (40%)

Spring Semester: Final Presentation (30%); Final paper (70%)