

## Changing from the Thesis Option to the Project-based MS Option (or vice versa)

**Thesis vs. Project-based MS Option:** The two MS pathway options are compared in detail at [http://ra.rx.uga.edu/program\\_info/reg\\_affairs\\_masters/nonthesis.php](http://ra.rx.uga.edu/program_info/reg_affairs_masters/nonthesis.php). Please familiarize yourself with the similarities and differences.

MS Thesis Degree code = **MS\_PHARM\_GWON**      MS Project (non-thesis) Degree code = **MS\_PHARM\_GONT**

During your MS program, if you wish to switch from one degree option to another, you may request this change following these guidelines:

- Changing from thesis to non-thesis, or the reverse, is at the discretion of the department.
- At the time of your request, no more than 17-20 semester hours of course credit should be completed.
- Ensure that none of your course work has expired. See the UGA Graduate School website for additional information
- Discuss the change with your major professor. If you have not selected one, contact the Assistant Director for guidance.
- Draft a request letter to Dr. Bartlett, Graduate Coordinator, ([mgbart@uga.edu](mailto:mgbart@uga.edu)) and Dr. Mullis, Program Director, [dmullis@uga.edu](mailto:dmullis@uga.edu). In your letter to Drs. Bartlett and Mullis, address your desire to change and document the reasons for this change. Include in your letter any discussions that you have had with your major professor on this proposed change.
- If your request is approved, you will need to reapply to the UGA Graduate School for the approved degree code. As an example, when you reapply, you need to apply for the Non-thesis degree, i.e. the degree code is **MS\_PHARM\_GONT**. The two degree codes are listed above.
- Many of the same department and UGA Graduate School policies apply to both MS options. Review the department's [MS Guide](#) for details on the planning of your thesis or project as well as the graduation details.