## PhD Dissertation Timeline

Five months\* prior to graduation, the student submits the **fair copy**, a complete draft, to the reading committee

*Three months* prior to graduation, each member of the reading committee completes the *Fair Copy Report* and recommends revisions to the student

If the dissertation requires extensive revision prior to defense, the student resubmits a second **fair copy,** and graduation is postponed to the next semester

If the committee declares the dissertation ready for defense, the student makes any suggested revisions and proceeds with the *final copy*, which is submitted to the ESM Graduate Studies Office *two weeks after the Fair Copy Report deadline* 

A student who fails the defense may be allowed an opportunity to repeat it after any necessary revisions are made to a second **final copy** (unless the majority of the committee members recommend otherwise)

One to two months prior to graduation: student **defends** the dissertation on the date assigned by the ESM Graduate Office

Following a successful defense, the student incorporates any recommended revisions into the *permanent copy*, due *one month* prior to graduation; the student submits an electronic copy of the dissertation to ProQuest, a hard copy of the dissertation to the ESM Graduate Office, and an abstract to RILM.

\*For exact dates, please see the current Graduate Calendar.