

## **CRITERIA FOR SATISFACTORY PROGRESS FOR THE Ph.D. DEGREE in CHEMISTRY**

To make satisfactory progress as a graduate student, a Ph.D. candidate must:

1. Complete a minimum of 8 credits per semester (maximum 15 credits) and 2 credits per summer session, with the courses to be approved by the adviser or major professor. The normal course load is 12 credits per semester. After admission to candidacy (dissertator status), only 3 credits are required, while continuing full-time effort on research.
2. Complete a minimum of 51 credits (including credits for research) over the course of the Ph.D. See the Chemistry Minimum Degree Requirements at [http://grad.wisc.edu/catalog/degrees\\_chemistry\\_criteria.htm](http://grad.wisc.edu/catalog/degrees_chemistry_criteria.htm)
3. Maintain a cumulative B (3.0) average for all courses (in computing this average, all research course grades are excluded). This is required by the Graduate School.
4. Obtain a grade of B or higher in courses taken as core- and minor-course requirements. (Determined by the Department of Chemistry; see the requirements for each path on the Chemistry web site.)
5. Choose a major professor and begin work within 2 semesters of graduate study (in general this will happen by Nov. 15<sup>th</sup> of the first semester of graduate work) and thereafter make satisfactory progress in research as judged by the major professor and confirmed by the Program in which the student is specializing.
6. Satisfy the PhD requirements set by the Department and meet these requirements within the time limit. This includes a second-year thesis background report and oral, third-year original research proposal and oral, fourth-year oral research presentation, and fifth-year oral thesis defense (see <http://www.chem.wisc.edu/content/phd-requirements>).
7. Complete the Ph.D. minor requirements not later than the end of the third year of graduate work.

A student who fails to meet specified requirements after one semester will be placed on probation and will receive notification from the department. Any requirements not satisfied after 2 semesters will result in termination unless the major professor requests, and the department approves, probationary status. Probation will be granted one semester at a time. All requests for probation must be initiated through and approved by the major professor prior to the first department meeting of the affected semester.

In addition to these requirements, the student is advised to be aware of the general rules of the Graduate School. Further information is available on the graduate school website, found under Academic Policy and Procedures at <https://grad.wisc.edu/acadpolicy/>