

Biochemistry

Department Information

- **Department Chair:**
Gregory Cook, Ph.D.
- **Graduate Admissions Director:**
Uwe Burghaus, Ph.D.
- **Department Location:**
Ladd Hall
- **Department Phone:**
(701) 231-8694
- **Department Web Site:**
www.ndsu.edu/chemistry (<http://www.ndsu.edu/chemistry/>)
- **Application Deadline:**
April 15 for fall, October 31 for spring. Spring admissions depend on the availability of fellowships and faculty interests. If there are no spring openings, spring applications are automatically considered for the subsequent fall semester.
- **Credential Offered:**
Ph.D., M.S.
- **Test Requirement:**
GRE required for applicants who have not earned a degree in the U.S. GRE (general and subject recommended for domestic applicants, but not required)
- **English Proficiency Requirements:**
RA - TOEFL 71, IELTS 6, Duolingo 105; TA Grader - TOEFL 79, IELTS 6.5, Duolingo 110; TA Instructor - TOEFL 81, IELTS 7, Duolingo 115

Master of Science

The Master of Science program requires the completion of 30 graduate semester credits with an overall GPA of 3.0 or better. This total is comprised of both class work and research credit, but must include at least 16 semester credits of didactic course work (<https://catalog.ndsu.edu/graduate/graduate-school-policies/>).

Code	Title	Credits
Required Courses		
CHEM 720	Introduction to Chemical Research	2
CHEM 790 or BIOC 790	Graduate Seminar (second year seminar) Graduate Seminar	1
UNIV 720	Scientific Integrity	1
CHEM 790 or BIOC 790	Graduate Seminar (defense seminar) Graduate Seminar	1
Didactic Credits (601-689, 691; 700-789, 791; 800-889 and 891)		16 *
CHEM 798 or BIOC 798	Master's Thesis Master's Thesis	6-10
Total Credits Required		30

As part of total semester credits, the following departmental courses are recommended for students based on discipline:

Analytical

CHEM 632	Analytical Chemistry II	3
CHEM 730	Separations	2
CHEM 732	Advanced Survey of Analytical Chemistry	4
CHEM 736	Mass Spectrometry	2

Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

BIOC 673	Methods of Biochemical Research	3
BIOC 674	Methods of Recombinant DNA Technology	3
BIOC 701	Comprehensive Biochemistry I	4
BIOC 702	Comprehensive Biochemistry II	4

Inorganic

CHEM 724	Chemical Applications of Group Theory	1
CHEM 725	Advanced Survey of Inorganic Chemistry	3
CHEM 727	Organometallic Chemistry	3
CHEM 728	Physical Methods for Chemical and Biomolecular Research	2
CHEM 744	Organic Spectroscopy	2
Organic		
CHEM 741	Physical Organic Chemistry I	4
CHEM 742	Physical Organic Chemistry II	2
CHEM 744	Organic Spectroscopy	2
CHEM 745	Organic Synthesis	4
Physical		
BIOC 665		
CHEM 760	Statistical Thermodynamics	4
CHEM 763	Kinetics	2
CHEM 764	Dynamics	2

*

A minimum of 10 must be from courses numbered 701-789; 791 or 800-889; 891

Each student chooses a thesis adviser within six months of beginning graduate school. As this is one of the most important decisions made in graduate school, students are strongly urged to visit multiple faculty members to discuss research opportunities. In addition, faculty seminars during the fall semester are designed to acquaint new students with the available research programs.

By the end of the first academic year, each student selects an advisory and examination committee, which consists of the thesis adviser, two other faculty members in the chemistry department, and one faculty member from a department outside the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry.

Doctor of Philosophy

The Ph.D. program requires the completion of 90 graduate semester credits, post-baccalaureate, with an overall GPA of 3.0 or better. This total is comprised of both class work and research credit, but must include of at least 27 semester credits of didactic course work (<https://catalog.ndsu.edu/graduate/graduate-school-policies/>).

Candidates for the PhD degree are required to earn at least 90 semester credits, which can include credits for seminar and research. No fewer than 27 of these 90 semester credits shall be earned in courses carrying graduate credit (courses numbered 601 to 789), and of these 27 credits, a minimum of 20 must be from courses numbered 701 to 789. Of these 20 credits, the requirement is 8 total credits in at least two fields of study other than the major area, selected from:

- Analytical Chemistry
- Biochemistry & Molecular Biology
- Coatings and Polymeric Materials
- Inorganic Chemistry
- Materials & Nanotechnology
- Microbiology
- Organic Chemistry
- Physical Chemistry
- Other related area (e.g., Physics, Math, Pharmacy, Engineering, Zoology)

A student matriculating with a Master's Degree, including one earned at an international institution, must earn not fewer than 60 graduate credits at NDSU. Of these credits, not fewer than 15 credits must be NDSU courses numbered from 701 to 789. Courses numbered 601-689 may be used for the Plan of Study as long as they have not been taken in an undergraduate or previous graduate program. Approved courses are Department of C&B 625, 626, 627, 628 and 630.

Code	Title	Credits
Required Courses		
CHEM 720	Introduction to Chemical Research	
BIOC 790 or CHEM 790	Graduate Seminar (second year seminar) Graduate Seminar	
BIOC 790	Graduate Seminar (proposal seminar)	

or CHEM 790	Graduate Seminar
BIOC 790	Graduate Seminar (public presentation)
or CHEM 790	Graduate Seminar
BIOC 790	Graduate Seminar (defense seminar)
or CHEM 790	Graduate Seminar
UNIV 720	Scientific Integrity

As part of total semester credits, the following departmental courses are required for students based on program:

CHEM 725	Advanced Survey of Inorganic Chemistry
BIOC 673	Methods of Biochemical Research
BIOC 674	Methods of Recombinant DNA Technology
BIOC 701	Comprehensive Biochemistry I
BIOC 702	Comprehensive Biochemistry II
CHEM 732	Advanced Survey of Analytical Chemistry
CHEM 741	Physical Organic Chemistry I
CHEM 759	Advanced Survey of Physical Chemistry
BIOC 899	Doctoral Dissertation

Admission to candidacy for the Ph.D. degree is accomplished by satisfying three requirements: 1) satisfactory performance in course work with a minimum 3.0 grade-point average, 2) satisfactory performance on a written comprehensive examination, taken by the end of the fourth semester, and 3) satisfactory defense of an original research proposal on a topic approved by the student's supervisory committee. The defense of this proposal must occur at least eight months prior to the final oral examination.

Following completion of dissertation research, the candidate must complete a written dissertation and an oral presentation to the department and supervisory committee.