



What can you expect in terms of timelines and program requirements for a M.Sc.?

M.Sc. Program

PROGRAM TIME LIMITS

6 terms (2 years) from an Honours B.Sc. degree.

The number of terms specified in these time limits apply regardless of whether the student is registered full-time or part-time.

Students who run over their time limit **may not be guaranteed financial support**. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that he/she has completed all the requirements and written his/her thesis within the time limit (six terms for a M.Sc.; nine terms for a Ph.D. after M.Sc.; twelve terms for a Ph.D. after B.Sc.).

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Thesis Option (Regular): Students must successfully complete at least four one-term graduate courses, one of which is Chemistry 794(0) (M.Sc. Seminar), and submit and defend an acceptable thesis. Half of the graduate courses must be taken within the Department of Chemistry. Two graduate courses may be taken through other departments within their registered University or students may request transfer credit for courses taken from another University to meet the course requirements. Students are advised to consult with their supervisor in the selection of courses.

Thesis Option (Co-operative): The academic requirements are the same as in the Regular Thesis Option M.Sc., but at least two of the required four one-term courses (including Chemistry 794(0) - M.Sc Seminar) must be completed during the first two terms in the program. Following the second term, the student will spend two terms (eight months) working in an industrial or government laboratory, upon completion of which he/she must present an acceptable work report. Upon returning to the campus, the student will complete his/her course work, research, and prepare the M.Sc. thesis.

To be accepted as a coop student, applicants must find a supervisor that is interested in taking the coop student into their research program. This is more likely to happen where the supervisor has a research program strongly linked with an industrial partner who shares the research interest of the researcher. Thus the research carried out under the supervisor can be continued.

A student is eligible to apply for admission to the M.Sc. Co-operative option if he/she has a minimum standing of 75% in an Honours Bachelor of Science degree, or the equivalent, from an accredited university and is restricted to Canadian citizens or landed immigrants. The Co-op M.Sc. option is not available to students who have completed a Co-op program as undergraduates. These students are, however, eligible for admission to the Co-op Ph.D. program.

During the work-terms, the student is paid by the host organization a salary that is based on the student's experience and the host's salary scale.

Part-Time Course Work Based Option: Students who elect this option must successfully complete six one-term graduate courses plus Chemistry 794(0) (M.Sc. Seminar) and Chemistry 797(0) (M.Sc. Research Paper). The research paper is an experimental project to be completed during one term of full-time research in the laboratory of a Centre faculty member. A written report is required, and a seminar based on the content of the report will be presented.

Within the (GWC)² program, part-time students can only take courses through the University of Guelph or Waterloo, but three of the six graduate courses may be taken through other departments within their registered University. It is advisable that students take courses that are relevant to their area of specialization in chemistry, as this may be of help when students eventually seek a research advisor for their Chem 797(0) Research Paper.

The part-time course-based M.Sc. option allows students to focus on any area of chemistry or biochemistry. A supervisory committee consisting of 2 faculty (a supervisor plus one centre member) must be formed at the beginning of the term in which the seminar will be done. The student should ask 2

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(GWC)² Website: <http://www.gwc2.on.ca>

faculty members in his/her area of research. The minimum period of time for completion of the part-time M.Sc. is six terms and it is expected that the program will normally be completed within five years.

In selecting which University they will apply through, applicants are encouraged to review the research conducted by faculty at each institution and, in light of their own research interests, choose that University as their home university. This option is open to Canadian citizens and permanent residents.

PROGRAM REGULATIONS

Admission Standards

The minimum academic requirement for admission to the (GWC)² M.Sc. program is an upper second-class (B+) honours bachelor's degree (or its equivalent) in Science from a recognized university. Strong emphasis is also placed on the letters of recommendation received in support of the student's application. Students from foreign countries where English is not the language of instruction are also required to prove their proficiency in English through a TOEFL exam and may be required to complete a GRE (Graduate Record Examination) in Advanced Chemistry to assist the Director in assessing their academic background.

Courses

All graduate courses in (GWC)² have final examinations, unless prior to the start of the course, the course instructor has proposed an alternate rigorous method of assessment to the Director. Although the overall method of evaluation is left up to the individual professors, general monitoring has shown the method of assessment to include assignments, a mid-term and final examination. All graduate courses are evaluated by the students each semester with respect to the course content and to the performance of the professors. These evaluations are kept on file in the Centre Office and are made available to the instructors for their information.

Academic Integrity (Plagiarism)

Please review the following websites regarding academic integrity (plagiarism):

University of Guelph: www.academicintegrity.uoguelph.ca

University of Waterloo: Policy 71 - Student Academic Discipline Policy
(<http://secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/Policies/policy71.htm>) and

Plagiarism and Other Written Offences
(http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/arts/ugrad/academic_responsibility.html)

Academic Integrity
(<http://uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity>)

M.Sc. Research Seminar Requirement

The Masters Seminar is a research proposal and seminar taken as a one-term course and completed by the second term of enrolment. The research proposal is a written document about 25 typed pages in length. It outlines the reasons for undertaking the thesis research, surveys the relevant literature concisely, and presents a detailed methodology for carrying out the thesis research. The material of the proposal is subsequently presented and defended in the course seminar.

The objectives of the Chem. 794(0) requirement are to encourage M.Sc. students to learn to use the literature at an early stage in their program, to stimulate in-depth thinking about the basis of their thesis research and to encourage development of the public speaking skills so essential for scientists. It involves the preparation of a written Research Proposal and its presentation and defence in a public seminar, together with attendance at, and participation in, the critical evaluation of analogous seminars presented by their peers. While most often based on the theme of their M.Sc. research project, subject to the approval of their supervisor, the Proposal may be on any topic of the student's choice. It should outline the reasons for undertaking the project, concisely survey the relevant literature, present a detailed description of the methodology to be used and outline any preliminary results.

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M.Sc. Thesis

Students are required to seek out the advice of the Advisory Committee during the preparation of the thesis and provide them with a copy of the thesis to the Advisory Committee before it is submitted to the Examining Committee. The Advisory Committee should be given approximately two weeks to review the thesis. It is the student's responsibility to consult with each member of the Advisory Committee to make sure to allow for sufficient time for the Committee to read and comment on the thesis. Once the Advisory Committee agrees that the thesis is ready for submission a date for the defence can be set.

To reward strong performances in seminar presentations, a prize of \$100 is awarded annually on each campus of the Centre for the best Masters and Doctoral seminar.