BS/MS Degree

The BS/MS degree is offered only to highly motivated Emory undergraduates completing the chemistry B.S. major. The graduate program in chemistry does not offer a terminal MS degree to outside candidates.

Requirements

→ Complete 15 course credits at the graduate level, including:
  o three core courses
  o chemistry seminar attendance course
  o library methods course

→ Write and defend a Masters’ level thesis based on research pursued under the supervision of a faculty research mentor in the chemistry department.

Timeline

Applications to the BS/MS program must be submitted by the end of the Fall semester of the Junior year—and students should note that a viable research project may need to begin even earlier. The expectation is that all requirements for both the B.S. in chemistry and the M.S. degree will be completed in four years. In the event that a student is unable to complete all of the MS degree requirements at the same time that he/she completes the BS degree, the student may enroll the semester following and pay a reduced graduate fee. Requirements for the master’s degree
must be complete within one year of the Bachelor’s degree award. A student who is unable to do so will no longer be allowed to continue under the terms of the dual degree program.

**Application Requirements**

Applicants should submit the following to the Graduate Program Coordinator:

- Letter of application addressed to the Director of Graduate Studies
- Letter of support from your research mentor
- Specific course plan outlining your semester-by-semester approach to completing the degree
- GRE general test scores
- Unofficial Emory transcript

**M.S. versus Honors**

As far as permitted by the terms of the Emory College Honors program, it is permissible for 500-level coursework used to fulfill the requirements for Honors to be applied to the requirements for the BS/MS degree. However, the student must submit research for both the Honors degree and the M.S. that are substantially different in scope (although they may be portions of the same project.) Students may not receive two different degrees for the same work.

**Advice to Applicants**

Prospective applicants should be aware that graduate coursework will generally require a greater time commitment than undergraduate courses. It is the responsibility of the student to ensure that course prerequisites are met. In addition, students
should be aware that making room in their schedule for graduate level work may limit their ability to complete advanced coursework in the undergraduate curriculum. Additionally, the BS/MS should not be considered a prerequisite for graduate school in chemistry, although the additional training may be a benefit in some cases, particular for students wishing to study chemistry abroad. The Department of Chemistry strongly recommends that potential BS/MS students discuss their plans at length with their proposed research advisor as well as taking advantage of Emory College advising and speaking with graduate professors teaching the courses they plan to take.

Questions?

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