Program Overview

The Master of Science (M.S.) degree with a major in Chemistry is designed to train professional chemists, enhance the training of chemistry teachers, and provide adequate background for further advanced study.

Application Requirements

The items listed below are required for admission consideration for applicable semesters of entry during the current academic year. Submission instructions, additional details, and changes to admission requirements for semesters other than the current academic year can be found on The Graduate College's website (http://www.gradcollege.txstate.edu). International students should review the International Admission Documents page (http://mycatalog.txstate.edu/graduate/admission-documents/international/) for additional requirements.

- completed online application
- $55 nonrefundable application fee

or

- $90 nonrefundable application fee for applications with international credentials
- baccalaureate degree in chemistry from a regionally accredited university (Non-U.S. degrees must be equivalent to a four-year U.S. Bachelor's degree. In most cases, three-year degrees are not considered. Visit our International FAQs (https://www.gradcollege.txst.edu/international/faqs.html) for more information.)
- official transcripts from **each institution** where course credit was granted
- a 3.0 overall GPA or 3.0 GPA in the last 60 hours of undergraduate course work (plus any completed graduate courses)
- GRE not required
- statement of purpose discussing career goals and undergraduate experiences
- two letters of recommendation regarding the student's academic potential and undergraduate research experience

Approved English Proficiency Exam Scores

Applicants are required to submit an approved English proficiency exam score that meets the minimum program requirements below unless they have earned a bachelor's degree or higher from a regionally accredited U.S. institution or the equivalent from a country on our exempt countries list (http://www.gradcollege.txstate.edu/international/language.html#waiver).

- official TOEFL iBT scores required with a 78 overall
- official PTE scores required with a 52 overall
- official IELTS (academic) scores required with a 6.5 overall and minimum individual module scores of 6.0
- official Duolingo scores required with a 110 overall
- official TOEFL Essentials scores required with an 8.5 overall

This program does **not** offer admission if the scores above are not met.

Degree Requirements

The Master of Science (M.S.) degree with a major in Chemistry requires 30 semester credit hours, including a thesis.

Course Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Required Courses		
CHEM 5110	Seminar in Chemistry (Taken 3 times)	3
CHEM 5395	Fundamentals of Research	3
Core Courses		
Choose 9 hours from the following:		9
CHEM 5321	Advanced Organic Chemistry	
CHEM 5330	Physical Chemistry	
CHEM 5341	Inorganic Chemistry	
CHEM 5365	Separation Methods in Chemical Analysis	
Prescribed Electives		
Choose 9 hours from the following: [1]		9
CHEM 5321	Advanced Organic Chemistry	
CHEM 5330	Physical Chemistry	
CHEM 5341	Inorganic Chemistry	
CHEM 5365	Separation Methods in Chemical Analysis	
CHEM 5310	Medicinal Chemistry	
CHEM 5312	Organometallic Chemistry	
CHEM 5313	Principles and Applications of Mass Spectrometry	
CHEM 5320	Modern Molecular Modeling	
CHEM 5333	Spectroscopy	
CHEM 5351	Introduction to Polymers and Polymer Synthesis	
CHEM 5353	Polymer Processing and Characterization	
CHEM 5355	Physical Chemistry of Polymers	
CHEM 5382	Enzymology	
CHEM 5383	Molecular Biology & Molecular Genetics	
CHEM 5385	MPMetabolism	
CHEM 5390	Supramolecular Chemistry	
CHEM 5396A	Materials Chemistry	
MSEC 7301	Practical Skills in Commercialization and Entrepreneurship	
MSEC 7302	Leadership Skills in Commercialization and Entrepreneurship	
MSEC 7311	Materials Characterization	
MSEC 7320	Nanocomposites	
MSEC 7325	Principles of Technical Project Management	
MSEC 7340	Biomaterials and Biosensors	
MSEC 7370	Advanced Polymer Science	
Thesis		
CHEM 5399A	Thesis	3
Choose a minimum of 3 hours from the following:		3
CHEM 5199B	Thesis	
CHEM 5299B	Thesis	
CHEM 5399B	Thesis	
CHEM 5599B	Thesis	

	CHEM 5999B Thesis	
Total Hours		**30**

[1] Cannot count courses taken for core credit.

Comprehensive Examination Requirement

An oral thesis defense is required to serve as the comprehensive examination. The thesis committee will decide whether the student passes or fails the defense. Should the student fail, a second oral defense is allowed.

Students who do not successfully complete the requirements for the degree within the timelines specified will be dismissed from the program.

If a student elects to follow the thesis option for the degree, a committee to direct the written thesis will be established. The thesis must demonstrate the student's capability for research and independent thought. Preparation of the thesis must be in conformity with the *Graduate College Guide to Preparing and Submitting a Thesis or Dissertation*.

Thesis Proposal (http://www.gradcollege.txstate.edu/docs/Thesis_Diss_Guide.pdf)

The student must submit an official Thesis Proposal Form (http://www.gradcollege.txstate.edu/forms.html) and proposal to his or her thesis committee. Thesis proposals vary by department and discipline. Please see your department for proposal guidelines and requirements. After signing the form and obtaining committee members' signatures, the graduate advisor's signature if required by the program and the department chair's signature, the student must submit the Thesis Proposal Form with one copy of the proposal attached to the dean of The Graduate College for approval before proceeding with research on the thesis. If the thesis research involves human subjects, the student must obtain exemption or approval from the Texas State Institutional Review Board prior to submitting the proposal form to The Graduate College. The IRB approval letter should be included with the proposal form. If the thesis research involves vertebrate animals, the proposal form must include the Texas State IACUC approval code. It is recommended that the thesis proposal form be submitted to the dean of The Graduate College by the end of the student's enrollment in 5399A. Failure to submit the thesis proposal in a timely fashion may result in delayed graduation.

Thesis Committee

The thesis committee must be composed of a minimum of three approved graduate faculty members.

Thesis Enrollment and Credit

The completion of a minimum of six hours of thesis enrollment is required. For a student's initial thesis course enrollment, the student will need to register for thesis course number 5399A. After that, the student will enroll in thesis B courses, in each subsequent semester until the thesis is defended with the department and approved by The Graduate College. Preliminary discussions regarding the selection of a topic and assignment to a research supervisor will not require enrollment for the thesis course.

Students must be enrolled in thesis credits if they are receiving supervision and/or are using university resources related to their thesis work. The number of thesis credit hours students enroll in must reflect the amount of work being done on the thesis that semester. It is the responsibility of the committee chair to ensure that students are making adequate progress toward their degree throughout the thesis process. Failure to register for the thesis course during a term in which supervision is received may result in postponement of graduation. After initial enrollment in 5399A, the student will continue to enroll in a thesis B course as long as it takes to complete the thesis. Thesis projects are by definition original and individualized projects. As such, depending on the topic, methodology, and other factors, some projects may take longer than others to complete. If the thesis requires work beyond the minimum number of thesis credits needed for the degree, the student may enroll in additional thesis credits at the committee chair's discretion. In the rare case when a student has not previously enrolled in thesis and plans to work on and complete the thesis in one term, the student will enroll in both 5399A and 5399B.

The only grades assigned for thesis courses are PR (progress), CR (credit), W (withdrew), and F (failing). If acceptable progress is not being made in a thesis course, the instructor may issue a grade of F. If the student is making acceptable progress, a grade of PR is assigned until the thesis is completed. The minimum number of hours of thesis credit ("CR") will be awarded only after the thesis has been both approved by The Graduate College and released to Alkek Library.

A student who has selected the thesis option must be registered for the thesis course during the term or Summer I (during the summer, the thesis course runs ten weeks for both sessions) in which the degree will be conferred.

Thesis Deadlines and Approval Process

Thesis deadlines are posted on The Graduate College (http://www.gradcollege.txstate.edu/) website under "Current Students." The completed thesis must be submitted to the chair of the thesis committee on or before the deadlines listed on The Graduate College website.

The following must be submitted to The Graduate College by the thesis deadline listed on The Graduate College website:

1. The Thesis Submission Approval Form bearing original (wet) and/or electronic signatures of the student and all committee members.
2. One (1) PDF of the thesis in final form, approved by all committee members, uploaded in the online Vireo submission system.

After the dean of The Graduate College approves the thesis, Alkek Library will harvest the document from the Vireo submission system for publishing in the Digital Collections database (according to the student's embargo selection). **NOTE: MFA Creative Writing theses will have a permanent embargo and will never be published to Digital Collections.**

While original (wet) signatures are preferred, there may be situations as determined by the chair of the committee in which obtaining original signatures is inefficient or has the potential to delay the student's progress. In those situations, the following methods of signing are acceptable:

- signing and faxing the form
- signing, scanning, and emailing the form
- notifying the department in an email from their university's or institution's email account that the committee chair can sign the form on their behalf

- electronically signing the form using the university's licensed signature platform.

If this process results in more than one document with signatures, all documents need to be submitted to The Graduate College together.

No copies are required to be submitted to Alkek Library. However, the library will bind copies submitted that the student wants bound for personal use. Personal copies are not required to be printed on archival quality paper. The student will take the personal copies to Alkek Library and pay the binding fee for personal copies.

Master's level courses in Chemistry and Biochemistry: CHEM

Courses Offered

Chemistry (CHEM)

CHEM 5110. Seminar in Chemistry.
A course designed to acquaint the graduate student with current research areas in chemistry. May be repeated twice for total of 3 semester hour credit.
1 Credit Hour. 1 Lecture Contact Hour. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CHEM 5195. Professional Development of Graduate Assistants.
This course is designed to develop and enhance graduate assistants' laboratory instruction abilities. Topics covered in the course include effective lecture techniques, laboratory safety, theory and practical knowledge on laboratory experiments and laboratory section management. This course does not earn graduate credit.
1 Credit Hour. 1 Lecture Contact Hour. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Graduate Assistantship|Exclude from Graduate GPA
Grade Mode: Leveling/Assistantships

CHEM 5199B. Thesis.
This course represents a student's continuing thesis enrollment. The student continues to enroll in this course until the thesis is submitted for binding.
1 Credit Hour. 1 Lecture Contact Hour. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

CHEM 5285. Laboratory Development Practice.
This course develops the laboratory instructional abilities of post-baccalaureate students seeking either 8-12 Chemistry or 8-12 Physical Science Teaching Certification. Topics include both traditional laboratory techniques and guided inquiry techniques, safety, laboratory management, pedagogical theory and practical knowledge of laboratory experiments.
2 Credit Hours. 1 Lecture Contact Hour. 2 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Lab Required
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CHEM 5295. Professional Development of Graduate Assistants.
This course is designed to develop and enhance graduate assistants' laboratory instruction abilities. Topics covered in the course include effective lecture techniques, laboratory safety, theory and practical knowledge on laboratory experiments and laboratory section management. This course does not earn graduate credit.
2 Credit Hours. 2 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Graduate Assistantship|Exclude from Graduate GPA
Grade Mode: Leveling/Assistantships

CHEM 5299B. Thesis.
This course represents a student's continuing thesis enrollment. The student continues to enroll in this course until the thesis is submitted for binding.
2 Credit Hours. 2 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

CHEM 5310. Medicinal Chemistry.
This course surveys modern approaches to drug discovery and mechanisms of drug action with the focus on molecular structures of drugs. Examples of drug discovery for the chemotherapy of cancer, microbial and cardiovascular diseases will be examined.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CHEM 5311. Natural Products, Anti-Infective, and Anti-Cancer Agents.
This course is designed to introduce natural products by discussing their important classes (secondary metabolites), classification, nomenclature, structure, biosynthesis, occurrence and structure elucidation. The study of their utilization in medicine as leads for the development of new antimicrobial and anticancer agents will constitute the main focus of the course. The students will learn how to utilize their knowledge of organic chemistry and biochemistry gained in undergraduate courses toward the application of advanced research active areas at the chemistry-biology interface.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CHEM 5312. Organometallic Chemistry.
This course will survey the structure, bonding, and reactivity of organometallic complexes. Homogeneous catalysis of the transition metals as well as the main group elements along with specialized "seminal research papers" in the field of organometallic chemistry will also be presented.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CHEM 5313. Principles and Applications of Mass Spectrometry.
This course is designed for graduate chemistry and biochemistry majors. Sections of the course are devoted to the theory and practice of mass spectrometry. Application to chemistry, biochemistry, biology and materials science will be explored.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CHEM 5320. Modern Molecular Modeling.
The application of computational techniques to molecular modeling. Topics covered include quantum mechanical modeling, force field based molecular modeling, energy minimization, molecular dynamics, vibrational spectra, solution of crystalline structures, diffraction patterns, molecular blends, phase equilibria, crystal morphology, physical property prediction, and mesoscale modeling. Prerequisites: CHEM 3340 with a grade of "D" or better or instructor approval.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CHEM 5321. Advanced Organic Chemistry.
Study of the relation of the following topics to structure and reactions of organic compounds: bonding, stereochemistry, acid-base concepts, physical organic chemistry, reactive species, and mechanisms.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CHEM 5330. Physical Chemistry.
Fundamentals of physical chemistry are surveyed, emphasizing application in the other chemical sub-disciplines. Topics include classical thermodynamics, kinetics, atomic structure, and molecular spectroscopy.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CHEM 5333. Spectroscopy.
Study of various spectrometric techniques in qualitative and structural analysis of chemical substances. Students who have completed CHEM 4333 or its equivalent may not take this course for master's credit.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CHEM 5341. Inorganic Chemistry.
This course will review essential concepts in inorganic chemistry including atomic structure, bonding theory, acid-base chemistry, solid state structures, and coordination chemistry. Analytical techniques for characterizing inorganic structures will be discussed along with current topics in the field.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CHEM 5342. Bioinorganic Chemistry.
This course is designed to provide a broad overview of metalloprotein active site design and reaction mechanisms catalyzed by metalloenzymes. Training sessions on the use of contemporary protein visualization tools will be provided and used throughout the course. Topics covered in the course include dioxygen transport and activating proteins, electron transfer proteins, dinitrogen (N2), and hydrogen (H2) activation, photosystem and oxygen evolution, zinc containing proteins, CO2 reduction, and modern advancements in the field of bioinorganic chemistry. Students can expect to develop strong foundational knowledge in metalloenzyme structure, function, and reaction mechanisms.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CHEM 5351. Introduction to Polymers and Polymer Synthesis.
This course is designed to develop the student's general understanding of polymer history and importance as well as terminology, structure, and synthesis. The overall scope of the course will be to develop the student's general knowledge of polymer synthesis and structure. Students who have completed CHEM 4351 or its equivalent may not take this course for master's credit.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CHEM 5353. Polymer Processing and Characterization.
This course is designed to explore the areas of polymer processing and characterization. Students will be introduced to extrusion, injection molding, film formation, thermoforming, thermal-mechanical measurements, classical mechanical testing, thermal-optical measurements, and methods for determination of polymer molecular weight. Prerequisites: CHEM 5351 with a grade of "C" or better.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CHEM 5355. Physical Chemistry of Polymers.
A study of the physical chemistry of polymers. Subjects covered include thermodynamics, kinetic polymerization, phase relationships, molecular geometry, spectroscopy of polymers, polymer physics and mechanical behavior, polymer blends, rheology, and polymer composites.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CHEM 5365. Separation Methods in Chemical Analysis.
The principles of gas chromatography, capillary electrophoresis, and mass spectrometry are discussed with a balance among theory, practice, and application.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CHEM 5366. Quantitative Methods in Biophysical Chemistry.
This course will integrate the physical, chemical, and biological aspects of fundamental biophysical methods, including spectroscopy, calorimetry, and hydrodynamics. Students will develop a quantitative skillset in multiple analytical methods that are used to characterize a variety of biological systems. This course will provide students with the physical and chemical foundation to quantitatively study biological macromolecules at multiple levels of complexity.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CHEM 5370. Problems in Chemistry.
Open to graduate students on an individual basis by arrangement with the faculty member concerned. May be repeated once with different emphasis for additional credit.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CHEM 5375. Biochemistry.
A course devoted to a study of the chemistry of carbohydrates, lipids, proteins, enzymes, and nucleic acids. A study of enzyme kinetics and thermodynamics of coupled reactions is included.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CHEM 5381. Physical Biochemistry.
An introduction to the physical techniques of biochemistry with emphasis on the interpretation of experimental data obtained from electrophoresis, chromatography, immunological methods, ultracentrifugation, spectroscopy and emerging techniques.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CHEM 5382. Enzymology.
A study of the chemical and physical properties of enzymes. Topics will include structure-function relationships, elucidation of chemical and kinetic mechanisms, and the role of enzymes in metabolism.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CHEM 5383. Molecular Biology & Molecular Genetics.
This course addresses the basic genetic mechanisms of bacteria and eukaryotes and introduces some examples of the biochemical and genetic techniques employed to study cells, tissues, and organisms.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CHEM 5384. Current Topics in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology.
Course provides students with advanced knowledge in the areas of biochemistry and molecular biology. Topics include signal transduction and the molecular biology of cancer, as well as emerging topics in Genomics, Proteomics, and other new developments in biochemistry. May be repeated once for credit. Prerequisites: CHEM 5381 with a grade of "C" or better.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CHEM 5385. Metabolism.
A study of biodegradation and biosynthesis of carbohydrates, lipids, amino acids, proteins, and nucleic acids. Students who have completed CHEM 4385 or its equivalent may not take this course for master's credit.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CHEM 5386. Proteins.
This course will cover advanced biochemistry topics related to proteins. Topics will include protein structure, structure-function relationships, and current methodologies for examining proteins in addition to current findings in primary literature.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CHEM 5387. Nucleic Acids Chemistry.
This course will cover advanced biochemistry topics related to nucleic acids. Topics will include nucleic acid structures and properties, catalytic nucleic acids, protein-nucleic acid interactions, higher order complexes of protein-nucleic acids, and current methodologies for examining nucleic acids in addition to current findings in primary literature. Prerequisite: CHEM 5383 with a grade of "C" or better.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CHEM 5390. Supramolecular Chemistry.
This course is designed to be a survey of the nature of non-covalent interactions between host and gust species. Emphasis will be focused on the rational design of hosts, thermodynamic and kinetic parameters involved in binding and the applications of various binding/recognition phenomena.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CHEM 5391. Chemical Biology.
This course will introduce the emerging field of chemical biology and common tools that are used to analyze and manipulate biological processes with small molecules. Students will develop a strong foundation in the design and synthesis of chemical tools to interrogate biological systems and focus on implementing and interpreting assays with these tools, using examples from the current literature.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CHEM 5395. Fundamentals of Research.
Course is designed to acquaint the beginning graduate student with materials and methods of chemical research. (MULT & MULP).
3 Credit Hours. 2 Lecture Contact Hours. 3 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Multicultural Perspective|Multicultural Content
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CHEM 5396A. Materials Chemistry.
This course covers chemistry of the synthesis, structure, and properties of materials, including nanomaterials, and inorganic, organic and hybrid materials. An overview of solid-state chemistry and the principles and theory of sol-gel chemistry and materials characterization methods will be provided. Current topics and trends in materials chemistry and applications of materials in energy, electronics, and healthcare will be covered. Students will complete an independent report on synthesis, structure and properties of a material.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Topics
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CHEM 5399A. Thesis.
This course represents a student's initial thesis enrollment. No thesis credit is awarded until student has completed the thesis in CHEM 5399B.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

CHEM 5399B. Thesis.
This course represents a student's continuing thesis enrollment. The student continues to enroll in this course until the thesis is submitted for binding.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

CHEM 5599B. Thesis.
This course represents a student's continuing thesis enrollment. The student continues to enroll in this course until the thesis is submitted for binding.
5 Credit Hours. 5 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

CHEM 5999B. Thesis.
This course represents a student's continuing thesis enrollment. The student continues to enroll in this course until the thesis is submitted for binding. Graded on a credit (CR), progress (PR), no-credit (F) basis.
9 Credit Hours. 9 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit