

Graduate Program Timeline

Year One

First Semester

- Find an advisor
- Take four cumulative exams
- Teach lab or recitation sections
 - General Chemistry TAs may also have Chem 21 assignments
- Take CHE 772, Audit CHE 776, & 3 regular courses (total of 9-11 credit hours)

Second Semester

- Continue to teach lab or recitation sections
- Take four cumulative exams
- Take CHE 776 for credit, 3 regular courses, and research credits if necessary (total of 9-11 credit hours)
- Form advisory committee & Schedule first committee meeting

Helpful Tips...

Start applying for fellowships now.

Attend departmental seminars.

If you are on a teaching assistantship in the summer, prepare for unpaid time between the semesters.

The UK Law School files taxes for free. Contact Michael A. Douglas for more information.

Year Two

- Full-time course load (at least 9 hours) – typically a combination of CHE 790, CHE 776, and regular courses
- Second committee meeting
- Eight more chances to pass cumulative exams
- Most students still supported by a teaching assistantship

What do I do if I don't pass cumes?

1. Pursue an MS-A (Thesis Master's) or an MS-B (Coursework Master's) – Contact the DGS as soon as you are considering either of these options.
2. Talk to your advisor about other degree options.

Preparing for your Qualifying Exam

- Pre-register for CHE 767 – 2.0 credit hours counts as full-time.
- Prepare a high-quality CHE 790 report. You should also begin writing manuscripts for publication *now*.
- At least 4 weeks before exam: Submit your CHE 790 report to advisory committee for review.
- At least 2 weeks before exam: Schedule exam with the Graduate School *after your 790 grades are assigned AND appear on your unofficial transcript*.

What if I don't pass the qualifying exam?

1. If your advisory committee allows it, you may retake the exam one time. The second exam must be scheduled no sooner than 4 months after and no later than one year after the date of the first examination.
2. Pursue an MS-A (Thesis Master's) or an MS-B (Coursework Master's) – Contact the DGS as soon as you are considering either of these options.

Preparing for your Final Defense

- Continue to register for CHE 767 each semester. CHOOSE YOUR ADVISOR'S SECTION.
- Schedule one committee meeting each year.
- Apply for a degree via myUK.
- Prepare for your exit seminar.
- At least 8 weeks before exam: Submit notification of intent with the Graduate School.
- At least 4 weeks before exam: Submit dissertation to committee for review and approval.
- At least 2 weeks before exam: Schedule exam with the Graduate School *after committee approves dissertation*.
- Submit the final copy of your dissertation to the Graduate School within 60 days of the exam.