

## **Requirements for the MS Degree in Biochemistry (thesis option)**

1. MS students entering the program must have received satisfactory grades in 2 semesters of organic chemistry, or must take the ACS organic chemistry diagnostic examination and receive a minimum score at the 40<sup>th</sup> percentile. The student also may retake undergraduate organic chemistry or an appropriate graduate course and must receive a grade of "B" or better.
2. Course work will consist of BIOC 611, 645, and 647. In addition the MS student must take six additional hours of classroom instruction of which at least 4 be in BIOC courses. A total of 30 credit hours are required for the MS degree. Some of these may be in BIOC 619 Research.
3. One semester of BIOC 606 (seminar) is required during the second year.
4. Students are required to attend seminars and research conferences.
5. Students are expected to maintain a 3.0 average in their course work. Students who do not will be subject to dismissal from the program.
6. Students must present a 1-2 page research proposal for their thesis committee and orally defend that proposal.

### **Thesis**

A MS research thesis is required for the thesis option. The thesis must conform to the Graduate School's Standards for Preparation of Theses and Dissertations. The thesis Committee will consist of the preceptor, two other faculty of the Biochemistry Department (at least two of the Committee members must be primary faculty in the Biochemistry Department), and one member outside of the Department, and must be approved by the Graduate Executive Committee.

## Requirements for the MS Degree in Biochemistry (non-thesis option)

1. MS students entering the program must have received a grade of “B” or better in 2 semesters of organic chemistry, or must take the ACS organic chemistry diagnostic examination and receive a minimum score at the 40<sup>th</sup> percentile. The student also may retake undergraduate organic chemistry or an appropriate graduate course and must receive a grade of “B” or better.
2. Course requirements for students interested primarily in a course work MS include 20 credit hours of BIOC courses and 8 credit hours of electives inside or outside of BIOC. For students interested in a laboratory based MS with a non-thesis option, course requirements include BIOC 645 and 647 (or their equivalent), BIOC 611, and the remainder (17 credit hours) as BIOC 613 Biochemistry Laboratory (rotations).
3. Two semesters of BIOC 606 (seminar) are required.
4. Students are required to attend seminars and research conferences.
5. Students are expected to maintain a 3.0 average in their course work. Students who do not will be subject to dismissal from the program.
6. There are no foreign language requirements for the MS degree in Biochemistry.
7. A professional paper based on laboratory rotations or literature research and a final exam will be accepted in lieu of a traditional research thesis.