

Concentrating in Chemistry – A Timeline and Checklist

General comments

This document highlights key milestones along the progression towards your degree. Refer to it regularly to ensure that you are on track for graduation and satisfying concentration requirements. **You are responsible for ensuring that you satisfy all concentration requirements** – not the Concentration Advisor, not the Dept., not the Registrar – however, we are all available to help you answer any questions and guide you through the process. If you are making changes to your course selection from what is on your declaration and have questions about whether a particular course is appropriate/approved for the concentration, just email me and we can usually sort this out over email without having to deal with ASK. **Updates to ASK will only be approved in semesters 6 and 8 unless you are making major changes, but we should meet before you make significant revisions to your declaration.**

Sources of information and opportunities – ChemDUG Listserv; ChemUGradListserv (you are automatically enrolled in this as a Concentrator); Dept. website.

Honors criteria

- 1) Grades of A or S with distinction in a majority of courses taken for the concentration (**based on courses approved in ASK**)
- 2) Poster presentation (generally the week after Spring break) on your research
- 3) Thesis that has been approved by advisor and department
 - Note that AB candidates are also eligible for Honors if you satisfy these criteria – i.e. earning the ScB is not a requirement for Honors.
 - Oral presentations (typically held during Reading Period) are required for students who want their thesis to be considered for the Clapp Prize; others are welcome to present as well.

Items in **blue** only apply to students who are seeking to graduate with Honors and/or an ScB.

Junior year Fall (semester 5)

- ☐ **If you are an ScB and/or Honors candidate and have not yet identified a faculty sponsor for your Independent Study, you should start think about doing so now.**
- ☐ Start thinking about fellowships – UTRA, Goldwater, Royce, etc.

Junior year Spring (semester 6)

- ☐ Update your list of declaration courses in ASK.
- ☐ **ScB and/or Honors candidates need to have identified a lab for Independent Study by the end of this semester.**
- **Fellowships, Gap-years, etc.**
 - ☐ Fulbright, Rhodes, etc. Need to start planning these early - www.brown.edu/academics/college/fellowships/

Senior year Fall (semester 7)

- **Grad school**
 - ☐ see Concentration Handbook for tips on applying – use your class instructors, faculty advisors, other concentrators, etc. as sources of info about programs/depts.
 - ☐ if the cost of applying to multiple grad schools is prohibitive, ask them if they will waive the fee – many depts. have policies for fee waivers.
 - ☐ think about external fellowships (NSF, NDSEG, etc.); take GREs, general and subject (many depts. require the latter);
- **Jobs**
 - ☐ www.acs.org, CareerLab; ChemDUG Alumni Panel; LinkedIn

Senior year Spring (semester 8)

- ☐ **Update list of courses in ASK – used to determine GPA for Honors and to confirm graduation requirements**
- ☐ **apply for Honors (you will get sent an email from Dept. about this), submit tentative Thesis title and abstract**
- ☐ **Poster session – generally in April**
- ☐ **Thesis – due mid April, oral presentations during Reading Period**

Any questions? Email us (abasu@brown.edu / eunsuk.kim@brown.edu / matthew_zimmt@brown.edu) or drop by our offices (Basu – 445; Kim – 327; Zimmt – 421). Amit Basu, Concentration Advisor for Chemistry (ScB Chemical Biology Track); Eunsuk Kim, Concentration Advisor for Chemistry (ScB Chemistry and Materials Chemistry Tracks); Matthew Zimmt Concentration Advisor for Chemistry (AB Chemistry)