

Chemistry Graduate Student Guide

2024-2025

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For new Graduate Students:

- ▶ Click on the link above for tasks to be completed by new students.

Degree Requirements

[Click the link for full details](#)

▶ **Master of Science Program**

▶ The requirements for the degree of Master of Science are:

▶ One Graduate Full-Course Equivalent *

▶ Chemistry [9657](#), which is a course based on the presentation of a seminar

▶ Submission of a thesis

▶ The duration of the program is two years

▶ The course requirements are stated in terms of graduate full-course equivalents. A full-course equivalent is equal to a course weight of 1.0 (approximately 24 weeks of class). A half-course is equal to a course weight of 0.5 (approximately 12 weeks or 1 term) and a quarter-course is equal to a course weight of 0.25 (approximately 6 weeks of class). A Graduate Course is defined below. * Students must maintain at least a B standing averaged over all courses of the degree program.

▶ **Doctor of Philosophy**

▶ The requirements for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy are:

▶ 2.0 Graduate Full-Course Equivalents *

▶ Chemistry [9658](#), which is a course based on the presentation of a seminar

▶ Submission of a thesis

▶ The duration of the program is four years

Campus Life

- ▶ Arts & Culture
- ▶ Athletics
- ▶ Clubs & Associations
- ▶ Computer Support
- ▶and much more

Degree Progression

- ▶ **Yearly Reports (Please click the link above for full details)**
- ▶ All incoming students are assigned two departmental examiners and one thesis supervisory committee member within the first term they arrive. You will be able to see the names of your committee in your student center.
- ▶ Reports must be completed on time using [Pathfinder](#), mandated by the School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies. The manual for Pathfinder can be viewed on the secure site under the Resources tab on the Chemistry website. If you cannot access this using your UWO ID and password, please contact the Graduate Assistant. Failure to meet the requirements could affect the completion of your program.
- ▶ **Report Due Dates - Each year (These are the final dates to have everything submitted and meet with advisors if applicable)**
- ▶ September starts
Due by October 15
- ▶ January starts
Due by February 15
- ▶ May starts
Due by June 15

Student Groups

- ▶ [CGSA](#)- (Chemistry Graduate Student Association) Our very own resource for graduate students in Chemistry. This group was created to act as a liaison between graduate students and other Western organizations.
- ▶ [\(SGPS\)](#) -School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies has a wealth of information for current students, including regulations, term dates, training opportunities, and more.
- ▶ [SOGS-Society of Graduate Students](#) is a graduate student union that represents over 6,000 members and runs a student government.
- ▶ [CTL-Centre for Teaching and Learning](#) The CTL offers a wide variety of programming for teaching assistants and graduate students.
- ▶ [PSAC](#)-Teaching Assistants' and Postdoctoral Associates' Union at Western University (news, benefits, collective agreement)

The Grad Club

Message from the The Grad Club “located in Middlesex College on Western University Campus, is a not-for-profit graduate student pub and eatery that is owned and operated by the Society of Graduate Students (SOGS).

As an academic, social, and wellness space, the Grad Club is the hub of graduate student life and the home away from home for all graduate students and associate members.

The Grad Club has and always will be an institution that aims for inclusivity and providing a welcoming space for students and non-students alike.”



A SOGS tradition since 2008, the Goblet of Knowledge has become an icon of graduate life and scholarly achievement. Get a free drink (alcoholic or non) when you successfully defend your thesis. You must reserve the goblet.

Experiential Learning

- ▶ Gain work experience
- ▶ Connect with community
- ▶ Take a course
- ▶ Get involved
- ▶ Explore Entrepreneurship
- ▶ Study or learn abroad

Own Your Future

A doctoral professional development program enhancing your abilities in six professional competencies to excel your academic studies and future career.

- ▶ Discover Your Skills
- ▶ Develop as a Leader
- ▶ Maintain Your Wellbeing
- ▶ Prepare for your Career
- ▶ Communicate and Build Relationships
- ▶ Master and Teach Complex Topics

Graduate Students & Teaching Assistants

See below for a list of upcoming events on the Centre for Teaching and Learning

- ▶ [Advanced Teaching Program \(ATP\)](#)
- ▶ [Communication in the Canadian Classroom \(CCC\)](#)
- ▶ [Future Prof Series \(FPS\)](#)
- ▶ [Own Your Future: May Conference on Teaching](#)
- ▶ [SGPS 9500: The Theory and Practice of University Teaching](#)
- ▶ [TA Day: Graduate Student Conference on Teaching](#)
- ▶ [Teaching Assistant Training Program \(TATP\)](#)
- ▶ [Teaching in the Canadian Classroom](#)
- ▶ [Teaching Master Classes](#)
- ▶ [Teaching Mentor Program](#)

Graduate Teaching Assistantship

Subject to employment deductions and benefit changes. Regular deductions: Tax, CPP, EI, etc.	One term - 10 hour/week GTAship (Sept. 1, 2020 - Aug. 31, 2021)	One term - 10 hour/week GTAship (Sept. 1, 2021 - Aug. 31, 2022)	One term - 10 hour/week GTAship (Sept. 1, 2022- Aug. 31, 2023)
Base Compensation	140 hours @ \$46.29/hr = \$6,480.60	140 hours @ \$46.75/hr = \$6,545.00	140 hours @ \$47.22/hr = \$6,610.80
Vacation Pay	Term rate x 4% = \$259.22	Term rate x 4% = \$261.80	Term rate x 4% = \$264.43
Term Rate inclusive of vacation pay	\$6,739.82	\$6,806.80	\$6,875.23
Monthly Rate inclusive of vacation pay	\$1,684.96	\$1,701.70	\$1,718.81

External Scholarships

- ▶ You can view a list of provincial and national scholarships [here](#)
- ▶ The Scholarship Chair in Chemistry will send out emails when there is a call for applications. The School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies will also send emails.
- ▶ Check out this link for timelines and eligibility regarding these scholarships and prepare ahead of time if possible.....
- ▶ The Graduate Assistant and CGSA are happy to assist with any questions you may have regarding the process.

Chemistry Scholarships & Awards

- ▶ The Scholarship Chair will send out a call for applicants so watch your emails for these announcements throughout the year.



Department Funding

- ▶ Funding packages are set up in Mercury (a software program through SGPS)
- ▶ You will receive an email with a link when your funding package is ready to view and confirm (subject to change depending on external funding)
- ▶ The stipends for graduate students vary, depending on whether you are a Ph.D. or M.Sc. student and whether or not you currently hold an external scholarship. Visit the website for full details regarding funding.

Quick links:

- ▶ [Course information](#)
- ▶ [Forms and resources](#)
- ▶ [Thesis Guide](#)
- ▶ [Masters to Doctoral Transfer](#)
- ▶ [Pathfinder](#)
- ▶ [People](#)
- ▶ [Applying to Graduate](#)

Questions?

- ▶ If you have any further questions, please contact Darlene dhagen@uwo.ca