

## HONORS REQUIREMENTS

The Department of Chemistry offers five degrees: Bachelor of Science in Chemistry-ACS Certified, Bachelor of Science in Chemistry, Bachelor of Arts in Chemistry, Bachelor of Arts in Biochemistry, and Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry (the latter two are jointly offered with the School of Medicine's Department of Biochemistry). All five of these degrees can be earned with College Honors or Departmental Honors.

Departmental requirements for students participating in the College Honors or Departmental Distinction programs are:

- cumulative grade point average of 3.5
- six credits of CHEM or BIOC 399 or 499
- 2500 word senior thesis based on research work

Students are encouraged, but not required, to take the honors general chemistry series (CHEM 145, 155, 165) and the honors organic chemistry series (CHEM 335, 336, 337, 346, 347).

## THESIS GUIDELINES

The senior thesis must be approved by the student's undergraduate research advisor. The writing should be the student's own writing, not jointly written material (e.g., a typical paper coauthored by a research advisor or other people is unsuitable). The format of the senior thesis should be similar to a paper in the scientific literature. It should include the following sections:

- Introduction: Describe the scientific problem and briefly summarize relevant literature
- Experimental: Describe the experimental techniques and any procedures you used to evaluate the data.
- Results: Summarize your results but don't interpret them.
- Discussion: This is the section in which you use your results to address the scientific problem that you outlined in the Introduction.
- Conclusions: Briefly sum up your conclusions and suggest future work
- References

Graphics (figures, graphs, formulae, etcetera) are welcome, but must be referred to in the text of the thesis. Equations, tables and graphs should be spread throughout. References should be cited by number in running text and then listed numerically at the end

**Note that the thesis must be submitted by the final day of class (Friday before finals week) in the student's graduation quarter**

Note: Honors students can use up to six credits of CHEM 399 or 499 for either the Bachelor of Science in Chemistry-ACS Certified degree requirements or the BS Chemistry degree requirements. Up to nine credits of approved upper division undergraduate research can be applied to the science elective requirement of the BS Biochemistry degree.

Interested students should contact the chemistry/biochemistry undergraduate advisers in 303 Bagley or via [advisers@chem.washington.edu](mailto:advisers@chem.washington.edu) regarding participation in the Departmental Honors program.