

2013-2014 GRADUATE STUDENT HANDBOOK



DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY
AND BIOCHEMISTRY
SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

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I. Introduction

Welcome to the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry at San Diego State University! We hope you find your experience here exciting and rewarding, both personally and intellectually. Many people and resources are here to help you, and we encourage you to discuss any problems or questions you have with any of us.

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*Please come during advising office hours (to be posted) or make an appointment (by e-mail). Also please note that Dr. Cole is on sabbatical Fall 2013.

Most of the information presented in this handbook is here for your convenience. We realize that there is a lot of information out there, from a lot of different sources, and it can be confusing. If a source, such as the Graduate Bulletin (<http://arweb.sdsu.edu/es/catalog/bulletin/>) or Graduate Division (<http://gra.sdsu.edu/grad/index.html>) web site, is referred to here, **the original source will *always* supersede anything contained in this handbook. You are responsible for knowing the information referred to in the *original* document/source.** What we have tried to do here is highlight what we consider to be most important for new students as well as continuing students, and let you know where to find the source of this information. These issues, as well as those addressed during the Graduate Student Orientation provided online by the Graduate Division, will hopefully help you get you off to a good start here at SDSU. If you have questions regarding anything in this handbook, please contact either Dr. Cole, Dr. Grotjahn or Irene for further clarification.

Residency

All issues regarding your residency status are handled by the Office of the Registrar. If you are determined by the university to be a non-resident of the state of California, you will be required to pay tuition (tuition may be waived for certain qualifying students—see section entitled “Tuition Waivers”). All students, resident and non-resident, are required to pay registration fees, which, unfortunately, are often referred to erroneously as tuition by students and staff. Fees are a flat rate (there are two rates, one for students enrolled in 0-6.0 units, another for students enrolled in 6.1 or more units); tuition is charged on a per-unit basis. You can find up-to-date information on these rates in the current class schedule, on the Cashier’s Office website, or through your Web Portal account.

The Office of the Registrar’s website states:

Proof of residence requires evidence of both physical presence and intent to remain indefinitely in California at least one year before the residence determination date. In addition, other rules and exceptions apply.

It is your responsibility to notify the Legal Residency Office in the Office of the Registrar of any changes in residency status. This includes status changes from non-resident to resident and from resident to non-resident.

If you plan on petitioning for residency reclassification after your first year, it is important that you do as much as possible to establish your residency upon your arrival here. For example, obtaining a California driver's license, registering your vehicle in California, registering to vote in California, setting up accounts (utilities, bank or credit union, etc.) with local services, and, after the first of the year, filing a California state tax return will all help support your claim for residency. Again, it is your responsibility to ensure that the necessary steps are taken if you want to request reclassification after your first year. The determination date for residency status for fall semesters is September 20, and for spring semesters is January 25 (checked on Office of Registrar website <http://arweb.sdsu.edu/es/registrar/residency.html> on Aug. 7, 2013). That means that anything you plan to use for your supporting documentation should be done prior to that date in the year you *arrive* here (for example, you should get a California driver's license before September 20, 2013 if you plan to petition for residency reclassification for Fall 2014). The official policy regarding residence determination is on pages 38-39 of the 2013/2014 Graduate Bulletin found online. Please refer to it or contact the Office of the Registrar if you have any questions or concerns.

Tuition Waivers

The offer of a Teaching Associate (TA) position by the department may be accompanied by a waiver for non-resident tuition, awarded by the Graduate Division for qualifying students. The California State University has mandated that a minimum GPA of 3.0 is required, and the student must be working for the University for 20 hours/week, either as a TA or Graduate Assistant (GA), or if not a TA, be registered for 10 units per semester. Domestic students accepted from out-of-state (non-residents) are only eligible for 1 calendar year, after which they are expected to petition to have their residency reclassified. *It is your responsibility to obtain residency.* International Master's students are eligible for 4 semesters, and international Doctoral students are eligible for 10 semesters. Recipients must be making satisfactory timely progress towards their degree and maintain their eligibility criteria (i.e., GPA and appropriate progress on your program of study, POS) in order to continue receiving the waiver. The process is not automatic—the department must submit nominations to the Graduate Division each semester for tuition waivers. *The Graduate Division will not accept nominations for students who do not meet eligibility criteria.*

Academic Standing

As previously stated, a GPA of 3.0 is required for TAships and tuition waivers. However, in regards to academic standing, students must maintain a 2.85 GPA in all coursework taken after being admitted to the program. Failure to do so will result in the student being placed on academic probation, and, if a student does not meet the requirements for removal from probationary status within the specified timeframe, they may be disqualified from the university. There are also terms under which a student may be placed on administrative academic probation, such as failure to progress toward the stated degree. For a Master of Science or Master of Arts degree, a 3.0 GPA

must be maintained for all courses listed in the official degree program, and in all 300-level and above courses taken since beginning the graduate program, including transfer courses. No course graded below a “C” may be used towards an advanced degree. Students have the responsibility of maintaining satisfactory academic progress and should be aware of the consequences should they be unable to do so. For additional information on probation and disqualification, refer to page 65 of the 2013/2014 Graduate Bulletin, and for additional information on GPA requirements, refer to page 72-73.

Stop-Out/Leave of Absence

If you find it necessary to take time off from your studies, but would like to maintain your status as a continuing student (i.e., you do not want to have to reapply to return to the program), you should be aware of University policy. A one semester stop-out may be taken (under certain conditions) without you having to formally notify the university. However, you must notify your research advisor and the Graduate Advisor, not only out of courtesy, but to discuss how this may affect you in terms of your research, TAs, etc. You will still be considered a continuing student and will receive a registration date for the following semester. If your absence extends beyond one semester, you will need to apply for a leave of absence (please note that it is *apply*, not file). For a student in good standing, up to four semesters of leave of absence may be approved (under certain conditions). If you choose to stop-out for one semester, you still have four semesters available for leave of absence. You must apply for each semester separately, and you may not request semesters in advance. For the official University policy regarding stop-out and leave of absence, including restrictions on who may take them, please refer to page 64-65 of the 2013/2014 Graduate Bulletin.

Resources

The University offers students numerous resources, including the Student Computing Center at Love Library, study areas in the library, wireless internet access, free computer software training, and free email and web accounts, most of which will probably be discussed during the Graduate Student Orientation sponsored by the Graduate Division. In addition, the Chemistry Department has a student computer lab, GMCS 245, which contains a number of Mac and PC computers. These computers access programs for word processing, EXCEL, MAPLE, Gaussian and some other programs. These computers require an account set up by the College of Sciences computer center (SCEC). Students can set up a ROHAN e-mail account through Web Portal. You are probably already familiar with the department web site, <http://www.chemistry.sdsu.edu>, which also includes a lot of useful information.

Transfer Units

Up to 9 units of transfer credit from graduate courses taken at other universities can be applied to the master's degree (upon approval by the Graduate Advisor and the university), including coursework taken through SDSU's College of Extended Studies Open University program prior to admission into the graduate program. Some of our students take courses at UCSD. Since they are on a quarter system, each 4 units taken at UCSD transfer as 2 units to SDSU. These are transferred when you submit your program of study.

Awards and Additional Sources of Funding

There are numerous opportunities available for awards and additional funding. For more details, talk to either the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships or the Graduate Advisor. Some of the available awards are: College of Sciences Annual Scholarships; Achievement Rewards for College Sciences Foundation (ARCS); $\Phi\text{K}\Phi$ Honor Society; Graduate Equity Fellowship; Division of Organic Chemistry, American Chemical Society; and the California State University Research Competition.

II. Your First Year

During your first semester you will be taking classes and, if you are an M.S. student, choosing a research advisor. If you have a Teaching Associate (TA) position and have had no experience in teaching, it is unwise to try to take more than six units of coursework (usually two courses). You will find that two courses, along with teaching three lab sections, will keep you busy. If you are not teaching and do not have other time-consuming responsibilities, you can probably handle more than two courses, **but be very careful to not overextend yourself the first semester.** This is especially important with regard to your GPA.

Orientation Exams

Five orientation exams, covering the five major areas of chemistry (analytical, biochemistry, inorganic, organic, and physical) are given just before the Fall and Spring semesters each year. The best way to study for any of these exams is to review your undergraduate course material. The purpose of the orientation exams is to ensure that the student has a fundamental background in most areas of chemistry. Without such a background, a student may not be prepared to take certain specialized 700 level courses. For example, it is expected that only students with a strong background in organic chemistry will be taking Chem 730, Advanced Topics in Organic Chemistry.

M.A. students must pass 4 out of 5 of the exams, two of which must be organic and physical chemistry. These exams cover material found in typical undergraduate courses. One exam must be passed at the 40th percentile level, one at the 45th percentile level and two at the 50th percentile level or higher. If the student does not pass a particular exam, he/she must take an approved course to fulfill this requirement. In order to be given credit for passing an exam, the student must make at least a B grade in the approved course.

M.S. students must pass 3 out of 5 of the exams at the 50th percentile level, one of which must be in the student's area of interest. If a student admitted in the Fall does not pass a particular exam by June 1, he/she must take an approved course during the second year to fulfill this requirement. A student admitted in Spring will have a January 1 deadline. In order to be given credit for passing an exam, the student must make at least a B grade in the approved course.

Approved courses for orientation exams:

Analytical	550, 551, 751, 752, 753, 754
Biochemistry	560A, 560B, 562, 563, 564
Inorganic	520A or 520B
Organic	432, 530, 531, any 73x
Physical	410A, 410B, 510 any 71x

Registration

The university assigns registration dates based on priority status and makes this information available to you through your Web Portal account, which you will also use to register. For your first semester, we ask that you do not register for classes right away. Since the demand for upper-level chemistry courses is not very high, this shouldn't create any problems, and you don't need to worry about classes filling up. We would like you to wait until after taking your orientation exams and meeting with the Graduate Advisor during orientation. In future semesters, the courses you choose to take will depend on what area of research you are interested in and what areas of chemistry you feel you need to strengthen. If you are unsure about what courses to register for, you should always discuss this with your research advisor and/or the Graduate Advisor.

The class schedule is not printed. It can be accessed online at <http://www.sdsu.edu/schedule.html> or through your Web Portal account. It is a good idea to check the class schedule for changes (such as location) as it gets closer to the beginning of the semester. A few days before the first day of classes the registration system is taken offline, but it is brought back up on the first day of classes. Student may make changes in their classes during the Schedule Adjustment Period. The deadline to add or drop a class, change a grading basis or withdraw from the university is at 11:59 PM on the 10th class day of the semester (e.g. September 9 for Fall 2013). The deadline for the end of this period is available in the class schedule, through your Web Portal account (on the My Registration page), and on the current academic calendar, which can be found in the General Catalog/Graduate Bulletin online through the SDSU website. If you want to add a class after the first day of classes, you will need to obtain an add code from the instructor, even if the class is not full. You can add and drop courses quite easily using your Web Portal account up to the end of the schedule adjustment period, so if you change your mind after registering, that is not a problem. However, changing your courses after the schedule adjustment period is fairly difficult, and involves an appeal with supporting documentation submitted to the Office of the Registrar.

Research

New M.S. students need to find a faculty research advisor during the first weeks of the first semester. Details will be available in meetings during Orientation, and during Chem 695, but to give a general idea of the process, by a date to be set in early October, you will be asked to submit a list of your top four or five choices of research advisor. Within a week or so of submitting the list, it will be announced who gets their first choice, who gets their second, and so on, and then you can officially join a group. Last year was the first year we used this system and >90% of students got their first choice.

In order to help choose, in addition to hearing 15- or 20-minute research talks given by faculty in Chem 695, you will be asked to interview at least three to five faculty members, and you should start as soon as possible. A "Faculty Interview Form" will be given to you during the week before classes. It is wise to give yourself time to carefully consider your decision. Although you are always free to change research groups at any time, the time you spend on a thesis project in one research group may not transfer over to a new project. Talk with not only the faculty but also their students. Ask to come to research group meetings. Get as much information as you need to make a decision that's right for you.

As outlined above, you will choose a research advisor by a date to be set in October, at which time you may be issued keys. This period will allow you time to discuss research projects with your advisor and design a preliminary (non-binding) program of study. An official program of study will be required at a later date. Students are advised to start their research project as soon as they join a group in October. A progress report is due by June 1. Following this schedule, you will be in a position to work extensively and full-time on your research project during the next summer.

Teaching

A full-time TA (considered a half-time employee by Human Resources) usually teaches a total of three lab periods per semester, each 2 hours and 40 minutes long. However, because the demand for courses varies between the Fall and Spring semesters, the department is often in the position of having to offer more lower-division courses in the Fall than in the Spring. Occasionally, we are unable to offer everyone full-time TA positions for the Spring semester due to this difference.

Since the majority of the lab sections are devoted to Chem 100, 102, 200 or 201, general chemistry, it is likely that you will teach one of these classes. TAs may either be assigned three lab periods or will run three discussion sections. In some instances grading duties replace some of the lab teaching. Weekly TA meetings occur on Fridays, because there are no lab sections that day. These meetings are mandatory, and the lab coordinator uses this time to discuss what will be going on during the week. As a first-time TA you may find that teaching takes up a lot of time due to the preparation required, but as you become more experienced, the preparation takes less of your time.

TA positions are considered to be a type of financial aid and first priority for these positions is given to those students who are actively involved in research in the Chemistry Department; this usually includes all students working toward the M.S. or Ph.D. degree. Also, TA positions are granted to students who do not have outside jobs (including the summer). Finally, TA positions are contingent on the student making progress towards their degree in terms of both course work and research, while maintaining a GPA of 3.0 or higher.

Safety in teaching and research labs

Safety is the number one priority in both the teaching and research lab environment. Not only your Chem 695 instructor, but also the lab coordinator of the class you teach and your research supervisor will all be discussing safety and procedures for preventing accidents and injuries but also handling them when they occur. Appendix C of this Handbook contains information on Emergency Procedures and forms.

III. The Graduate Bulletin is Your Friend

The closest thing to a legally binding document related to your degree is the Bulletin of the Graduate Division. Many questions you might have can be answered by referring to the Graduate Bulletin. *You are responsible for the information contained in the bulletin.* The department does what it can to make you aware of key points, but ultimately, the future of your academic career is up to you, so be sure to read all parts relevant to your degree goal. A copy of the Bulletin can be viewed online at <http://coursecat.sdsu.edu/bulletin/index.html>. The department's Graduate Student Handbook, which you are now reading, highlights some of the more important information relevant to graduate students in chemistry and also includes information on some requirements, such as the orientation/qualifier exams, which are not described in the Bulletin.

A few points which you should keep in mind related to the Graduate Bulletin:

- The Graduate Bulletin is intended for graduate students. A similar publication which is called the General Catalog is primarily intended for undergraduate students, but there is information in that publication which is relevant to graduate students as well.
- From page 60 of the 2013/2014 Graduate Bulletin: "Students are individually responsible for the information contained in this bulletin. Although the Division of Graduate Affairs attempts to preserve requirements for students subject to this bulletin, information contained herein is subject to change from year to year as university rules, policies, and curricula change. Failure to keep informed of such annual changes will not exempt students from whatever consequences may result."
- Which Graduate Bulletin should you follow? In general, you should follow the latest edition of the Graduate Bulletin. However, the requirements governing your "Official Program for the Master's Degree" will be those specified in the Graduate Bulletin which is in effect at the time your program of study was approved by the Graduate Division.

If you have any questions regarding academic requirements, the office of Graduate Affairs makes the ultimate decision.

IV. Teaching Associate (TA) Positions

The M.S. program requires students to conduct a considerable amount of research. In order to finish the degree in a timely manner, a full-time research commitment is required in the summer and during the winter session. Since this prevents a student from using the summer for outside employment, TA positions are offered first to M.S. students who do not have outside jobs and who work full-time on their research when classes are not in session. M.A. students are *normally* not given TA appointments, but exceptions are made when it appears to be in the best interest of the department to do so.

The required qualifications for appointment of a teaching associate are stated in the application form:

A Teaching Associate or Graduate Assistant at San Diego State University must be admitted to the University by the Office of Admissions, be advanced to classified graduate standing during within 18 months of entering the graduate program, register each semester for at least six units of graduate courses in their degree program, and comply with policy and standards in the Graduate Bulletin. Failure to comply with these academic requirements or to perform teaching assignments satisfactorily will be sufficient cause for the termination of appointment. A Teaching Associate or Graduate Assistant must pay established services, facilities or materials fees, and, if a non-resident, tuition fees each semester. It is understood that a Teaching Associate or Graduate Assistant is primarily a student who is pursuing an education. Services rendered as an Associate or Assistant are secondary to the main education objective of the student.

The policy and standards are outlined on page 9 of the 2013/2014 Graduate Bulletin. The student should refer to the Graduate Bulletin for details but note in particular the following:

Reappointment following an appointment of one semester or one academic year is dependent upon satisfactory performance in graduate studies, as prescribed by the Division of Graduate Affairs, departmental need for the continued service in the department, and upon satisfactory teaching performance.

The Graduate Division also has a TA Handbook which details the policies and responsibilities associated with a TA position. The handbook is available through the Graduate Division website, <http://gra.sdsu.edu>.

A TA appointment that covers the academic year is paid out over a twelve month period, even though you will only be teaching during the fall and spring semesters. Full-time TAs (half-time employees of the university) with academic-year appointments are eligible for certain benefits. However, there are very specific conditions associated with this position in regards to benefits. Please contact Human Resources for more information—the department staff is not kept up-to-date on the regulations or policies and is not qualified to advise you on these matters. TAs are part of

Collective Bargaining Unit 11, which is represented by the Union of Academic Student Employees at the California State University (UAW Local 4123). For more information refer to the SDSU Human Resources website at <http://bfa.sdsu.edu/ps> or the UAW Local 4123 website at <http://www.uaw4123.org>.

The Graduate Committee of the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry conducts a Graduate Student Review every year to monitor the progress of students. Renewal of Teaching Associate appointments will be subject to this review. The following criteria will be used in considering renewal:

1. Satisfactory performance of teaching assignments. The committee will request an evaluation from each of the course coordinators; student evaluations may also be considered.
2. Satisfactory progress in course work. A 3.0 average must be maintained and six units of graduate course credit must be completed each semester until all coursework requirements have been satisfied.
3. Satisfactory progress in research. The committee may request an evaluation from each student's research advisor based partially on a research summary written by the student. Note that we expect all students with TA positions to be working full-time on their research projects during the summer.

First-year graduate students will be reviewed at the end of the spring academic semester, no later than June 15. The Graduate Advisor, with the advice of the Graduate Committee, will recommend to the department chairman either an academic year reappointment, a probationary single-semester reappointment, or no reappointment.

Second- and subsequent-year students also will be reviewed during each academic year no later than June 15. The committee will recommend an academic year reappointment, a probationary single-semester reappointment, or no renewal of the Teaching Associate appointment. If the committee recommends that a student's appointment not be renewed, the student may still receive a Teaching Associate position if the total department allotment is unfilled, if he/she makes a formal written request, and if previous teaching performance has been satisfactory.

V. Coursework

Most 500 and 700 level courses in the Chemistry Department can be taken to satisfy the 30 unit coursework requirement. Six units of coursework taken outside the Department can be used but you must obtain written approval from the Graduate Advisor. Generally 500, 600 or 700 level courses in Math, Physics, Molecular Biology or Biology are allowed if part of your program of study and research plans. Courses in other departments may also be approved but you must first obtain a syllabus from the instructor before the course can be considered. Always check first!

There are a few courses listed as Chemistry courses which are part of the Regulatory Affairs Program. These courses are not applicable toward the M.A. or M.S. degree in chemistry:

Chem 573	The Pharmaceutical, Biotechnology and Medical Device Industry
Chem 575	Introduction to Food and Drug Law
Chem 770	Current Good Manufacturing Practice for Drugs and Biologics I
Chem 771	Current Good Manufacturing Practice for Drugs and Biologics II
Chem 772	FDA Advertising, Promotion and Labeling
Chem 773	Medical Device Regulations

500-level Courses

Courses numbered 5xx are advanced undergraduate courses which can also be taken by Master's students for credit toward their degree. Up to 15 units of 500-level courses can be used. The next number after the 5 has some meaning—it designates the particular division with which the course is associated:

51x	Physical Chemistry
52x	Inorganic Chemistry
53x	Organic Chemistry
55x	Analytical Chemistry
56x	Biochemistry

600-level Courses

695—Introduction to Graduate Education in Chemistry (3 units). This course is to be taken by incoming masters students their first semester. Chem 695 provides in-depth training regarding laboratory safety, teaching a laboratory course and ethics in the areas of teaching and research. Also covered is an introduction to research at SDSU along with techniques for literature searching and communicating chemically based information. Chem 695 is a five- to six-week intense course which begins the week before the first day of classes in the Fall semester.

700-level Courses

Courses numbered 7xx are graduate courses and can only be taken by undergraduate students upon approval by the Graduate Division. At least 15 units of 700-level courses must be used toward the Master's degree. The next number after the 7 has the same meaning as for the 500-level courses.

Chem 790 and 791

Chem 790 and Chem 791 are both seminar courses given by the student. Chem 790 is required for both M.A. and M.S. students. M.S. students must also take Chem 791, which must be completed during the second year.

All students are required to give a Chem 790 literature seminar to students and faculty as the audience. The instructor will have further details about the expectations for the seminar. Up to six units (six seminars) may be used toward the M.A. or M.S. degree.

Chem 791 is a student research progress report and proposed plan of study. It too is presented to students and faculty as the audience. This is a requirement for all MS students. The instructor will have further details about the expectations for the seminar.

Chem 792

Chem 792 (Bibliography) is a one-unit course designed to allow students to work on library research for their thesis. Although the listed instructor is usually the current Graduate Advisor, each individual research advisor is responsible for setting the requirements and submitting a grade for his/her research students. This course is required for the M.S. degree.

Chem 795

Chem 795 (Seminar) is a one-unit Departmental seminar available to all classified graduate standing students. A maximum of three units are applicable to the master's or Ph.D. degrees. Recommended for all fields of chemistry.

Chem 797, 798, 799A/B

Chem 797 (Research) is taken by M.S. students after they have fulfilled all of their other course requirements; the grading basis is Credit/No Credit. This provides a way for students to register for six units while finishing their research project. Up to six units of Chem 797 are applicable to the M.S. degree (see note). This option is usually not available to M.A. students because they do not have to write a thesis on their research. M.A. students who wish to do short research projects are encouraged to take Chem 798 (Special Study). Occasionally a M.S. student who has taken Chem 797 units will change to the M.A. degree option. For such students, up to three units of Chem 797 can be used toward the degree, but only if a final report is written on the research.

Chem 798 (Special Study) is taken by M.A. students who wish to do a short research project under a faculty advisor. Generally, a final research report is expected.

Chem 799A (Thesis) is taken by M.S. students. It is not available to M.A. students. Only after a student has their Thesis Committee approved by the Graduate Division will he/she be allowed to register for this course. A student must be enrolled in Chem 799A or Chem 799B when his/her thesis is submitted.

Chem 799B (Thesis Extension) is taken by students who have enrolled in Chem 799A previously and have not yet submitted their thesis. A student must be enrolled in Chem 799A or Chem 799B when his/her thesis is submitted. Generally students will register for Chem 799B at Open University, if they are not registering for any other courses that term. This is a less expensive option. However, check financial aid office first to see if this is an option. Chem 799B is considered to be half time with regards to financial aid.

Note: Not more than a total of nine units of coursework graded as Credit/No Credit will be accepted for credit toward the degree. M.S. students will take three units of Chem 799A (Cr/NC) which counts toward the nine units.

VI. The M.A. Degree

The following is a general outline of the requirements for a Master of Arts degree. There are several other documents to which you should refer for more detailed information—make sure you become familiar with the specific requirements for each step of the degree process. Besides the Graduate Bulletin, the Graduate Division lists the “Procedural Steps Toward Earning a Master’s Degree” on their website. Read this so that you are aware of the university procedures. Additionally, the department website has handouts which are more specific to students in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, at <http://www.chemistry.sdsu.edu/graduate/forms>. If you have questions at any point in your studies here, please talk to the Graduate Advisor. It may be a cliché, but it is truly better to be safe than sorry.

Classified Graduate Standing

There are several categories under which a student may be admitted to the university. Nearly all chemistry students are admitted by the department with conditionally classified graduate standing. In order to change status from conditionally classified to classified graduate standing, students must satisfy the conditions stated on admission. These conditions may differ from one student to another (i.e., a specific course may be required), but all M.A. students must pass 4 out of 5 of the orientation/qualifier exams, as stated in the Orientation Exams section of this handbook. This requirement holds even if the student has already attained classified standing. This requirement must be fulfilled within 18 months of starting the program. When you feel that you have fulfilled the requirements for classified standing, you can contact the Graduate Advisor so that the Change of Status form can be filled out and submitted to the Graduate Division. However, the Graduate Advisor will usually do this without being contacted. Students must attain classified graduate standing before moving on to the next step, which is submitting an official program of study.

Official Program of Study

After you have passed the qualifier exam requirement and attained classified graduate standing, you can submit an official program of study. This form lists all the courses you have taken, or will take, as credit toward the master’s degree. After approval by the Graduate Advisor, the program of study is submitted to the Graduate Division, usually after you have completed 18 units. *You cannot submit other paperwork towards graduation until you have been advanced to candidacy and you will not be advanced until the program of study is submitted.* If your program of study differs from the requirements listed in the Graduate Bulletin, a Petition for Adjustment of Academic Requirements must be submitted along with the program of study. The petition must be approved by the Graduate Advisor and the Dean of Graduate Division. Once a program of study has been approved, you can only make changes by submitting a Request for Change in Official Program form.

Advancement to Candidacy

After you have submitted a program of study and been recommended by the Graduate Advisor, the Graduate Division will advance you to candidacy. Your program of study GPA must be a 3.0

or higher to be advanced. This means you are officially considered a candidate for the master's degree. You must be advanced to candidacy before you can complete the final exam requirement. Unlike the above two steps which are initiated by the student or the Graduate Advisor, this step is initiated by the Graduate Division. You do not need to get involved unless there is a problem which cannot be resolved by the Graduate Advisor.

Final Exam Requirement

The Master of Arts degree is offered under Plan B, the non-thesis option, which requires a written comprehensive examination. In the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry program, this requirement is satisfied by a final report. The structure of this report can vary but at the present time, the department requires students to write a paper on a current topic in chemistry. The topic of the paper must be approved by the Graduate Advisor, even if it is written under the direction of another member of the faculty. More details on the final exam requirement are described on the "Earning a MA Degree in Chemistry" handout available on the department web site at <http://www.chemistry.sdsu.edu/graduate/forms>.

Graduation

Possibly the most confusing step of the process is graduation. First of all, you should be aware that *graduation is not an automatic process*. You may complete your degree requirements, but you will not be awarded a degree, nor can you participate in commencement ceremonies, unless you have applied for graduation *within the required timeframe*. Late applications are not accepted by the Graduate Division. The current application deadline can be found on the Academic Calendar of the most recent Graduate Bulletin or on the Graduate Division website. It is your responsibility to apply for graduation.

Because the application is often submitted in advance of when the degree requirements are actually completed, it is possible to apply for graduation, participate in the commencement ceremony, and not meet the requirements for the degree, which means no degree will be granted. *The ceremony and the awarding of the degree are not the same thing*. Just as completing the requirements without applying will not allow you to graduate or participate in commencement, do not assume that because you have walked, you have a degree. The degree is usually posted several weeks after the end of the term in which you are graduating (most students know whether or not they have met the requirements, so it is very rarely a surprise). These are all things you must keep in mind as you work towards your degree, even if that seems quite far off at the present time.

The university holds one commencement ceremony each year, in May. Graduate students who receive a degree in the summer session of the previous academic year, or the fall session of the current academic year, or expect to complete their degree requirements in the spring are eligible to participate in that year's commencement ceremony.

VII. The M.S. Degree

In the Department of Chemistry we feel that we maintain quite high standards, especially for thesis research towards the M.S. degree. Graduate studies cannot be done by most people as if it were a normal 40 hour/week job. You should not expect to graduate in a reasonable length of time unless you are willing to work very hard or work quite long hours. In particular, you must use the time between semesters, and especially the summers, to work on research as intensively as possible. It is probably no coincidence that one of the most common complaints of professors is that their students do not take their research as seriously as they should and that one of the most common complaints of students is that it has taken longer to get their degree than they expected!

Your work towards the M.S. degree will probably go more smoothly if you communicate often and honestly with your research supervisor. Good communication can avoid a lot of wasted effort. However, don't just expect to be guided by your supervisor at every step. One thing which we expect you to learn in doing research towards an M.S. degree is how to become independent. Be creative and try to devise your own solutions to problems. However, check your ideas with your supervisor on a regular basis. This paragraph will probably seem to have contradictory statements—we realize that there is a delicate balance in getting proper supervision and in learning to work independently and in being creative!

This section contains a general outline of the requirements for a Master of Science degree. There are several other documents which you should refer to for more detailed information—make sure you become familiar with the specific requirements for each step of the degree process. Besides the Graduate Bulletin, the Graduate Division lists the “Procedural Steps Toward Earning a Master's Degree” on their website. Read this so that you are aware of the university procedures. Additionally, the department website has handouts which are more specific to students in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, at <http://www.chemistry.sdsu.edu/graduate/forms>. If you have questions at any point in your studies here, please talk to your research advisor and/or the Graduate Advisor.

Classified Graduate Standing

There are several categories under which a student may be admitted to the university. Nearly all chemistry students are admitted by the department with conditionally classified graduate standing. In order to change status from conditionally classified to classified graduate standing, students must satisfy the conditions stated on admission. These conditions may differ from one student to another (i.e., a specific course may be required), but all M.S. students must pass 3 out of 5 of the orientation/qualifier exams, as stated in the Orientation Exams section of this handbook. This requirement holds even if the student has already attained classified standing. This requirement must be fulfilled within 18 months of starting the program. When you feel that you have fulfilled the requirements for classified standing, you can contact the Graduate Advisor so that the Change of Status form can be filled out and submitted to the Graduate Division. However, the Graduate Advisor will usually do this without being contacted. Students must attain classified graduate standing before moving on to the next step, which is submitting an official program of study.

Official Program of Study

After you have passed the qualifier exam requirement and attained classified graduate standing, you can submit an official program of study. This form lists all the courses you have taken, or will take, as credit toward the master's degree. Your research advisor will work with you on planning your program of study. After approval by the Graduate Advisor, the program of study is submitted to the Graduate Division. The form is usually submitted after you have completed 18 units. *You cannot submit other paperwork towards graduation until you have been advanced to candidacy and you will not be advanced until the program of study is submitted.* If your program of study differs from the requirements listed in the Graduate Bulletin, a Petition for Adjustment of Academic Requirements must be submitted along with the program of study. The petition must be approved by the Graduate Advisor and the Dean of Graduate Division. Once a program of study has been approved, you can only make changes by submitting a Request for Change in Official Program form.

Advancement to Candidacy

After you have submitted a program of study and been recommended by the Graduate Advisor, the Graduate Division will advance you to candidacy. Your program of study GPA must be a 3.0 or higher to be advanced. This means you are officially considered a candidate for the master's degree. You must be advanced to candidacy before you can submit your Appointment of Thesis/Project Committee, register for Chem 799 or submit your thesis for review. Unlike the above two steps which are initiated by the student or the Graduate Advisor, this step is initiated by the Graduate Division. You do not need to get involved unless there is a problem which cannot be resolved by the Graduate Advisor.

Thesis Committee

When your thesis is close to being completed, and after you have been advanced to candidacy, you will need to select a thesis committee. The Graduate Advisor and Graduate Division must approve the thesis committee before you can register for Chem 799A. During the semester that you are registered in 799, you will give an oral defense of your thesis. The committee consists of three faculty members, two within the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry and one outside of the department. Non-faculty supervisors and faculty outside of the university can be chosen as additional members of the committee upon approval by the Chemistry Department Chair. Usually, the student's research advisor is the chair of the committee. Prior to this stage, you should have an idea of who your committee members will be, and it is recommended that faculty who are likely to be on your thesis committee be present when you present a seminar on your research as part of Chem 791.

The "Appointment of Thesis Committee Form" can be obtained from the Graduate Division. *The Thesis Committee form is only available after the student has been advanced to candidacy, and only after the thesis committee form is approved can a student register for Chem 799A.* You can enroll in Chem 799A during the normal registration period each semester. Please note that you cannot graduate unless you are enrolled in Chem 799A or B during the term in which you have applied to graduate.

Writing Your Thesis

Before you begin to write your thesis, buy a copy of the “SDSU Master’s Thesis and Project Manual” available at the SDSU Bookstore. The style manual you should use is by Slade, and there are an additional two pages of departmental instructions which are given in Appendix A of this handbook. Using the thesis template can make writing much easier, because used properly, the template helps formatting the document.

Although the thesis is not submitted to the Graduate Division until it is successfully defended, it is essential to know beforehand what the Graduate Division requires. A prescreening process is described in the section “Submitting Your Thesis to the Graduate Division.” There are also tutorials available on the Dissertation and Thesis Review section of the Graduate Division web site.

Defense of Your Thesis

One of the last steps in obtaining an M.S. degree is passing an oral exam on the thesis, referred to as a defense of thesis. The following guidelines were approved by the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry for conducting an oral defense of thesis. Some slight deviations may occur, depending on the circumstances, but if you are not comfortable with any proposed deviations, you should speak with your Thesis Chair (research advisor) about your concerns. Your research advisor will work with you while writing your thesis, and they must approve the content and organization before sending copies to the other committee members.

Guidelines:

1. Research supervisors should give a copy of these guidelines to each candidate for a graduate degree well in advance of the oral defense.
2. Members of the thesis committee will review the written thesis. After the appropriate corrections have been made to the thesis, the committee will give approval to schedule an oral defense of the thesis. Approval to schedule the oral defense will only be given when there seems to be a very good chance that the candidate will pass the oral defense.
3. Notices which give the time and place for the oral defense of the thesis will be posted in the building at least one week in advance and all interested persons will be invited to attend.
4. One person will be chosen by the committee to moderate the oral defense, usually the committee chair.
5. The candidate will present a summary of the research described in the masters thesis typically lasting somewhere between half an hour to one hour, at the discretion of the moderator.
6. Members of the audience will be invited to direct questions to the candidate about the research and tangential concepts.
7. After an appropriate number of questions have been handled, all those in attendance except the thesis committee and the candidate will be requested to leave.
8. The thesis committee may ask further questions of the candidate, after which the candidate will be asked to leave the room and wait for the committee to deliberate.

9. The candidate will be called back into the room and told whether he or she has passed. If the candidate has passed, the signature page of the thesis will be signed at that time. If the candidate has not passed, the candidate will be given information as to how to improve the written thesis and the oral defense. Arrangements will also be made for another oral defense of the thesis.
10. Should a second defense of the thesis be required, the process will start again at step 2.

Submitting Your Thesis to the Graduate Division

When you have successfully defended your thesis and made all changes required by your committee, you must submit the written thesis to the Graduate Division where it will be reviewed. The Graduate Division Thesis Reviewer reviews each thesis for formatting and style errors. The Thesis Reviewer provides a five-minute pre-screening process for each thesis as it comes into the office. If the thesis is in good condition, it will immediately be put into a queue for expedited full review. If there are moderate departmental or university formatting errors, the thesis will be put into a secondary queue for full review. These will be reviewed only after the expedited review queue is empty. Finally, if the thesis contains major errors in formatting, it will be rejected and turned back to the student. Therefore, it is to your advantage to submit a thesis with as few formatting errors as possible so that it will be given first priority in the review process. More details are available on the Graduate Division web site, on the Dissertation and Thesis Review page. This page has the latest updates on the Dissertation and Thesis Review manual as well, and should be consulted frequently if you are preparing to work on your thesis. Also available is the “Pre-Screening Intake Form” which is used in the pre-screening process. A current copy should be obtained from the Thesis Reviewer in the Graduate Division office. Once again, you must be enrolled in Chem 799A or B when the thesis is submitted. See the Graduate Bulletin for further details.

Graduation

Possibly the most confusing step of the process is graduation. First of all, you should be aware that *graduation is not an automatic process*. You may complete your degree requirements, but you will not be awarded a degree, nor can you participate in commencement ceremonies, unless you have applied for graduation *within the required timeframe*. Late applications are not accepted by the Graduate Division. The current application deadline can be found on the Academic Calendar of the most recent Graduate Bulletin or on the Graduate Division website. It is your responsibility to apply for graduation.

Because the application is often submitted in advance of when the degree requirements are actually completed, it is possible to apply for graduation, participate in the commencement ceremony, and not meet the requirements for the degree, which means no degree will be granted. *The ceremony and the awarding of the degree are not the same thing*. Just as completing the requirements without applying will not allow you to graduate or participate in commencement, do not assume that because you have walked, you have a degree. The degree is usually posted several weeks after the end of the term in which you are graduating (most students know whether or not they have met the requirements, so it is very rarely a surprise). These are all things you must keep in mind as you work towards your degree, even if that seems quite far off at the present time.

The university holds one commencement ceremony each year, in May. Graduate students who receive a degree in the summer session of the previous academic year, or the fall session of the current academic year, or expect to complete their degree requirements in the spring are eligible to participate in that year's commencement ceremony.

You must be enrolled in 799A or B in the semester in which you graduate. If you plan on graduating during the summer and you receive a tuition waiver, contact the Graduate Advisor as soon as possible, since tuition waivers are not normally granted during the summer.

VIII. The Ph.D.

Many of our students are working toward a Ph.D. degree through the Joint Doctoral Program (JDP) with the University of California at San Diego (UCSD). Getting a Ph.D. is not easy, but it may be a lot more accessible than you think. As you meet Ph.D. students, if you have any interest in the program, talk with them about it. Also talk with one or more faculty about the program.

Most students apply for the program at the end of their first year, although some apply in their second year. Applications are available in the Spring semester for admission the following Fall. You can obtain an application check-list and forms from the Chemistry Department office or Graduate Advisor beginning in February. Applications and supplementary material, such as letters of recommendation, are not required until the first Friday in May.

Your application will first be reviewed by our Graduate Committee. *You must have a strong recommendation from a faculty member at SDSU who is willing to accept you as a Ph.D. student.* Students usually do their Ph.D. work with the person who is supervising their M.S. work, but that is not necessary. Other criteria that are used in reviewing an application are:

- GRE scores—You should have scored at or above 50th percentile in the three areas. A score above the 50th percentile is also expected on the GRE subject exam in Chemistry or Biochemistry.
- Grades in graduate courses at SDSU—A GPA of 3.5 or better is expected.
- Orientation/qualifier exams—Three out of five exams must be passed (see section IV). Results of these orientation exams will be part of your evaluation for the JDP.
- You must have classified graduate standing or be eligible to be classified.
- Three letters of recommendation—We prefer to have letters of recommendation from SDSU or UCSD faculty. Again, one of these must be from your research advisor.

After the SDSU Graduate Committee meets, they will forward recommended JDP applications to the faculty of the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry at UCSD, who will then do their own review. Should the UCSD faculty recommend you for the program your application will be sent to the UCSD Graduate Admissions office, which will then make the final decision. Students who are recommended by SDSU are usually, but not always, accepted by UCSD. The final decision from the UCSD Graduate Division will not arrive until July. We can usually inform you of the SDSU and UCSD Graduate Committee recommendations before that time.

Once you have been admitted to the JDP, the UCSD Graduate administration takes over. You will attend classes at UCSD for one year. This is your first year in the JDP. The second and subsequent years in the JDP are spent doing research at SDSU.

During the second year students are required to pass the Departmental Exam at UCSD. This is an oral exam administered by the UCSD Chemistry Graduate Affairs Committee. Exam committees

consist of three faculty members: two from the student's area (one of whom serves as chair) and one from outside the student's area. This committee generally serves as the beginnings of the Doctoral Committee and is selected by the Graduate Affairs Committee (UCSD) in consultation with the student's research advisor and other faculty in the student's research area. In the past, the Departmental Exam has been an oral exam consisting of a critical analysis of one or more recent journal articles.

During the third year in the JDP students are required to pass the Qualifying Examination, which is required for advancement to candidacy for the Ph.D. The purpose of the examination is for students to gain approval of their proposed thesis research project from their Doctoral Committee, which consists of a minimum of five members, three from SDSU and two from UCSD. Both UCSD and SDSU must approve the committee. At the examination, students first give a 30-minute presentation, which is followed by a question-answer period.

The remaining time (usually two more years) is spent on your research project and on preparing for your Doctoral Defense and Dissertation.

Please note that the information in this section regarding requirements for the Ph.D. is subject to change, and is provided here to give you a general overview of the program, based on the requirements from previous years. More information is available on the UCSD Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry web site, on the SDSU-UCSD Joint Doctoral Program page, located at <http://www-chem.ucsd.edu/graduate-program/joint-doctoral-program/index.html>.

Students enrolled in the JDP should obtain current information on the requirements from their research advisor, the Graduate Advisor at SDSU, or from UCSD.

APPENDIX A: CHEMISTRY STYLE SHEETS

DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY M.S. THESIS GUIDELINES

Last revision—July 1999

Ph.D. dissertations must conform to UCSD requirements. What follows therefore concerns only M.S. theses produced by the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, SDSU.

Form

With the additions and exceptions noted below, the *format* of the thesis, (margins, fonts, headings, etc.) should correspond to that mandated by the Graduate Division, SDSU. Be sure to purchase the *Dissertation and Thesis Manual, San Diego State University, current edition* in the SDSU Bookstore. This is a required text and you are responsible for compliance with its contents. It should be read in its entirety. You may find it helpful to review previous student's theses from the Chemistry Department for structure and organization. *DO NOT*, however, use previous theses as a guide to formatting. A template for either PC or Macintosh versions of Word are available and are used in conjunction with the SDSU Thesis Manual for a majority of the necessary formatting. This can be downloaded from the Montezuma Publishing web page, <http://www.montezumapublishing.com>.

Style

There are many general guidelines available in the Main Library that will help you with writing style. In the instance of chemistry theses, the official guidebook is "The ACS Style Guide: A Manual for Authors and Editors," 3rd Ed., Coghill, A, M., Garson, L. R. Eds., American Chemical Society: Washington, D.C., 2006. Chapters 1-3 include detailed discussions of writing style, grammar, word usage and punctuation, and are particularly useful. The major journals in a program area should be consulted for additional information, e.g., *Analytical Chemistry* for analytical chemists, *The Journal of Biological Chemistry* for biochemists, and so forth. In addition, and in consultation with the research director, the student should consult the relevant journal(s) for detailed instructions, structures and schemes; the numbering and centering of equations; and the construction and labeling of tables, figures, etc. This information will usually be found in manuscript preparation guidelines published by each journal either in the January (first) or December (last) issue. Another good source of information is through the ACS web site, <http://www.chemcenter.org>. This site gives a lot of information, including "Notice to Authors of Papers" for the Journal of the American Chemical Society and samples of publications published by the ACS. *When a journal is selected as the guide for theses purposes, the "Instructions to Authors" as well as a copy of a published article must be given to the thesis reviewer at the same time the thesis is submitted for review.*

The Department of Chemistry requires that you present one bound copy of your thesis to your thesis advisor and one bound copy for the Chemistry Reference Center. Both copies should be

bound in red binding at the bindery off campus and have the thesis title imprinted in gold on the spine. However, you may also want additional copies for yourself.

Organization of the Table of Contents and Lists

Following the Table of Contents, you will need to include a List of Tables and a List of Figures, if used in your thesis. If so, the lists must contain the full title of each item as well as the page number on which it appears. (Such lists can be conveniently thought of as tables of contents for tables and figures.) For a particularly mathematical thesis a List of Symbols (including a brief definition of units) is highly recommended. The symbols are arranged in an order as follows:

Upper-case Letter
Upper-case (subscripted)
Upper-case (superscripted)
Upper-case (subscripted and superscripted)
lower-case letter
lower-case letter (subscripted)
etc.
(note the break here)
Greek Upper-case Letter
Greek lower-case letter

For example,

A Eddy diffusion term in the van Deemter relation.
 A_s Specific surface area, cm^2g^{-1} .
a Relative volatility.

 Δ Difference in partition coefficients (p. 33).
 Heat transfer term in eqn. 32, cal (p. 89).
 δ Solubility parameter defined by eqn. 44.
 ρ Density, g cm^{-3} .

Note that the definitions are capitalized and end in a period. Also, where a symbol is used for more than one term (such as for Δ in the above example), the page on which a particular definition is employed is given in parentheses.

Style for Bibliography and Footnotes in Chemistry Theses

This section is included as a helpful reference. Additional details of the bibliography style can be found in the “ACS Style Manual” or the “Instructions to Authors” of a particular journal. If a bibliography style other than that of the *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* is used, you must inform the thesis reviewer at Montezuma Publishing.

All references in the body of the thesis to journal articles, books, etc., will refer by number to an item in the bibliography. This bibliography, which will carry the section heading of “References”

(rather than “Bibliography”), will include all literature references, whether books, journal articles, etc., as a single list. In the text of the theses, the references will be numbered in order of appearance and the number will be placed in parentheses following the author’s name or at other appropriate places in the sentence. If for some reason the number appears at the end of the sentence, it should precede the period.

Examples: Jones (3) reported thermodynamic values.
 ..., whereas formic and acetic acid seem to interact weakly (5).

Each journal article will carry only one number in the Reference section and will indicate only the first page of the article. The article, of course, may be referred to several times in the text of the thesis. When there is more than one author to reference, the thesis writer may decide how many of these names to include in the text of the thesis. All of the names should be included in the References section.

If different pages of a book are referred to in different places in the thesis, each citation should have a different number. In the References section, the complete information should be given for the book at the first listing only. Subsequent listings would refer to the first number used and indicate the page for the new reference.

Example: 10. Reference 3, p. 270.

Do not make use of the terms ibid, op cit and loc cit in the text of the thesis or in the References.

In setting up the References section, follow the style of the *Journal of the American Chemical Society* (JACS). Note, though, that the references will be placed as a separate section at the end of your thesis, rather than dispersed throughout the text as is done in JACS. Also, be sure to include only those publications referred to in the thesis. The instructions and examples which are given below follow the style of JACS. Other appropriate journal styles can be used but you must inform the Graduate Division Thesis Reviewer of your choice.

1. Journal abbreviations are to be those used by *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*
2. The author’s last name comes first, followed by the initials (Pauling, L. not L. Pauling).
3. The name of the journal and the volume are to be in *italics* and the date is to be in **bold**.

Examples:

An example of a typical periodical reference would be:

7. Baker, C. G.; Gober, H. A. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **1953**, 75, 4058.

A typical book reference would appear as:

8. Pauling, L. *The Nature of the Chemical Bond*; Cornell University Press: New York, 1960; p. 123.

A typical book reference which includes chapters written by separate authors would be:

9. Willard, P. G. In *Comprehensive Organic Synthesis*; Trost, B. M., Fleming, I., Eds.; Pergamon Press: New York, 1991; Vol. 1, Chapter 1.

A typical thesis reference would be:

10. Stolzenberg, P. G. Ph.D. Thesis, Stanford University, 1980.

Footnotes will in no way duplicate the References section. Footnotes should be used as little as possible but should be used for private communications and other things which would not appropriately appear in the text or in the References section. Footnotes should be indicated by superscript numbers without parenthesis and should be numbered continuously throughout the text. If a superscript number appears at the end of the sentence, it should be placed after the period.

APPENDIX B: CHEMISTRY DEPARTMENT FACULTY

	Office	Phone	Lab	Phone
Miriam Bennett	GMCS 213F	45770	CSL 407	46643
Mike Bergdahl	GMCS 213G	45865	CSL 204	42422
Carl Carrano	GMCS 213D	41617	CSL 410	45574/45577
Dale Chatfield	CSL 401	45806	CSL 401	42091
Thomas Cole	CSL 210A	45579	CSL 210	44895
Andy Cooksy	CSL 310	45571	CSL 307/312	40891/42710
Doug Grotjahn	CSL 205	40231	CSL 203/209/201	47396/41620
Jeffrey Gustafson	CSL 208	45580	CSL-206	41618
Chris Harrison	GMCS 213E	41609	CSL 407C	45597
Tom Huxford	CSL 325A	41606	CSL 325	41597
John Love	CSL 339A	42063	CSL 339	41616
Kathy McNamara	CSL 313	41614	CSL 330	43771
Bob Metzger	CSL 340	46801	CSL 338	44224
Karen Peterson	CSL 309	44507	CSL 303/305	42002/1593
David Pullman	CSL 301	45573	CSL 303/305	42002/41593
Byron Purse	CSL 213	46215	CSL 211/201	45857
Diane Smith	CSL 412A	44839	CSL 412	44499
William Stumph	CSL 334	45575	CSL 332	43771
William Tong	GMCS 209C	45929/42442	CSL 302/306/308	41611/44434
Peter van der Geer	CSL 322	45582	CSL 324	41619

APPENDIX C: SAFETY-RELATED PROCEDURES AND FORMS

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**SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & SAFETY**

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

Chemical Exposure or Injury

Prompt response is important if a person has been occupationally or instructionally injured from or exposed to chemicals. Safety Data Sheets should be consulted for specific procedures and control. Every situation is unique. Practice good judgment. All actions should be made with the victim's health as the first priority. After (or during) any incident, the Person in Charge and EHS should be notified.

Immediately do the following:

- **For serious or life threatening emergency, immediately call 911 from a campus phone or (619) 594-1991 from a mobile phone.**
- Move away from the site of the hazard.
- Get to the nearest emergency safety equipment or supplies and provide first aid according to Safety Data Sheet.
 - If inhaled, close container and move to fresh air.
 - If splashed on skin or eye: **For chemical burns to the face or eye, call 911.**
 - Flush the affected area for at least 15 min. except for Water Reactive Chemicals.
 - Remove contaminated clothing, contact lenses, jewelries, etc.
 - **Hydrofluoric Burns** – After 5 min.flush, apply calcium gluconate gel. If no gel, flush 15 min. Call 911.
 - **Phenol Burns** – After flush, apply polyethylene glycol (PEG). If no PEG, flush 15 min. Do not use ethanol. Call 911.
 - **Cryogen or Dry Ice Burns** – Flood or soak in tepid water – do not use hot water. Call 911.
 - **Water Reactives** – Do not flush with water. Follow Safety Data Sheet instructions. Call 911.
 - If ingested, seek medical attention immediately and/or contact Poison Control Center at 1-800-222-1222.
 - If injected, seek medical attention immediately and/or contact Poison Control Center at 1-800-222-1222.
- **For non-life threatening emergency, seek medical attention as outlined below. In addition provide the Safety Data Sheet of the chemical.**

Note: Certain chemical splash (e.g. phenol, hydrofluoric acid, methyl iodides and ethyl bromides) may result in delayed effects or signs and symptoms; seek medical attention promptly.

- For assistance with transport of injured students, contact Public Safety at (619) 594-1991.
- Provide the following information to emergency response personnel and medical service provider:
 - Name and location of injured or exposed individual
 - Identity of chemical
 - Description of conditions under which the incident occurred
 - Description of any signs and symptoms

After (or during) any incident:

- Notify the Person in Charge: PI/Lab Manager, Instructor/TA, or Supervisor/Manager
- Person In Charge must:
 - Properly contain and secure the chemical spill or release.
 - Report the exposure incident to EHS at (619) 594-6778.
 - Notify Benefits Manager at (619) 594-1142 for employees.
 - Complete a Student or Employee [Accident/Incident Report Form](#).
 - Complete a [Supervisor's Report of Work Related Accident/ Illness Form](#) for employees.

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

Chemical Exposure or Injury

For Students

- Proceed to Student Health Services (8:30am - 4:30pm, M-F). If needed, call public safety for escort at (619)- 594-1991.
- Referral services for specialty care through Student Health or Primary Care Physician
- After hours and weekends, proceed to Urgent Care or Emergency Room

For Employees

- **During Work Hours:**
 - **Occupational Health Services (8 am – 5 pm, M-F)**
Call (619) 644-6600 then proceed to:
Sharp Rees-Stealy, La Mesa
Grossmont Medical Plaza, Suite 601
5525 Grossmont Center Drive
La Mesa, CA 91942
 - **Urgent Care Services (8 am – 8 pm, Daily)**
Proceed to:
Sharp Rees-Stealy, La Mesa
Grossmont Medical Plaza, First Floor
5525 Grossmont Center Drive
La Mesa, CA 91942
 - **After Work Hours (after 8 pm to 8 am)**
Proceed to Sharp Grossmont Hospital Emergency Room, or Occupational Health Services or Urgent Care Services during business hours.

Note: Student interns in health care facilities should seek initial medical attention at the facility where the incident occurred, but will need to follow up with Sharp Rees Stealy, Occupational Health Services.

SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & SAFETY DEPARTMENT

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

**Needlestick and Bite Injury or Exposure to Blood, Body Fluids,
Infectious Agents and Toxins**

Prompt response is important if a person has been injured or exposed (by needlestick, bite, splash, or direct contact) to human or non-human primate blood, body fluids, bloodborne pathogens, infectious agents, toxins, or recombinant DNA. Every situation is unique. Practice good judgment. All actions should be made with the victim's health as the first priority. After (or during) any incident, the Person in Charge and EHS must be notified.

Immediately do the following:

- **For serious or life threatening emergency, immediately call 911 from a campus phone or (619) 594-1991 from a mobile phone.**
- Wash the wound or skin with soap and water.
- Flush or rinse out affected mucous membranes (eyes, nose, mouth, etc.) with water.
- **For Non-Life Threatening Emergency Care seek medical attention as outlined below. In addition provide the Safety Data Sheet of the toxin.**

Note: Toxins or biological exposures may result in delayed effects or signs and symptoms; seek medical attention promptly.

- For assistance with transport of injured students, contact Public Safety at (619) 594-1991.
- Provide the following information to emergency response personnel or medical care provider:
 - Name and location of injured or exposed individual
 - Identity of the biohazardous material
 - Description of the conditions under which the exposure occurred
 - Description of the signs and symptoms of exposure, if any

After (or during) any incident:

- Notify the Person in Charge: PI/Lab Manager, Instructor/TA, or Supervisor/Manager
- Person In Charge must:
 - Report the exposure incident to the Biosafety Officer at (619) 594-2865 or (619) 594-6965.
 - Properly contain and secure the biohazardous materials and/or contaminated sharps for follow-up investigation and disposal.
 - Complete a Student or Employee [Accident/Incident Report Form](#) in the event of a bloodborne or other biohazardous exposure, **and** a [Sharps Injury Log](#) if the event involves a biohazardous contaminated sharp or needle stick.
 - Person in Charge to notify Benefits Manager at (619) 594-1142 for employees.
 - Complete a [Supervisor's Report of Work Related Accident/ Illness Form](#) for employees.

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

Needlestick and Bite Injury or Exposure to Blood, Body Fluids, Infectious Agents and Toxins

For Students

- Proceed to Student Health Services (8:30am - 4:30pm, M-F). If needed, call public safety for escort at (619) 594-1991.
- Referral services for specialty care through Student Health or Primary Care Physician
- After hours and weekends, proceed to Urgent Care or Emergency Room

For Employees

- **During Work Hours:**
 - **Occupational Health Services (8 am – 5 pm, M-F)**
Call (619) 644-6600 then proceed to:
Sharp Rees-Stealy, La Mesa
Grossmont Medical Plaza, Suite 601
5525 Grossmont Center Drive
La Mesa, CA 91942
 - **Urgent Care Services (8 am – 8 pm, Daily)**
Proceed to:
Sharp Rees-Stealy, La Mesa
Grossmont Medical Plaza, First Floor
5525 Grossmont Center Drive
La Mesa, CA 91942
 - **After Work Hours (after 8 pm to 8 am)**
Proceed to Sharp Grossmont Hospital Emergency Room, or Occupational Health Services or Urgent Care Services during business hours.

Note: Student interns in health care facilities have the opportunity to seek initial medical attention at the facility where the incident occurred, but will need to follow up with Sharp Rees Stealy, Occupational Health Services.



SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & SAFETY

ACCIDENT/INCIDENT REPORT

Please complete a report for each incident or accident within 14 days of the date the incident or accident was reported.

This form must be completed in the event of a potential exposure, chemical, biological, or radiological spill, fire, explosion, impact, puncture, electrical shock, fall, entrapment etc. regardless of whether an injury or illness occurred. It may be completed by the person affected by the incident, a witness, or the supervisor or manager.

In the event of an injury or illness, the Supervisor's Report of Work Related Accident/Illness form must also be completed if the affected individual is an employee of the University

Complete the form by typing or printing the response clearly. Check all applicable boxes.

Employee Involved in the Incident: Department: Phone:

Date of Incident:(Month-Day-Year) Time of Incident Employee Gender Employee Age

Manager or Supervisor of Employee: Phone Number Was the manager or supervisor notified of the accident/incident?

Nature of the Incident/Injury: (Check All That Apply) Body Part Affected: (Check All That Apply)

What happened? Describe how the incident/accident* occurred? Include what occurred prior to the accident/incident: (If more space is needed, attach separate sheet of paper. Include materials, equipment and tools being used. If needed, attach photos or drawings and mark location.)

If applicable, what object or substance directly harmed the employee?

Location/Work Area Where Incident Occurred: (Check All That Apply) Procedure Being Performed at Time of Incident: (Check All That Apply)

PPE Worn by Employee at Time of Exposure: (Check All That Apply) <input type="checkbox"/> Respirator-Half or Full Face: Cartridge: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Dust Mask (N95) <input type="checkbox"/> Hand Protection <input type="checkbox"/> Hearing Protectors <input type="checkbox"/> Eye Protection <input type="checkbox"/> Foot Protection <input type="checkbox"/> Head Protection <input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	What safety equipment was used to control hazard?: (Check All That Apply) <input type="checkbox"/> Biological Safety Cabinet <input type="checkbox"/> Containment/Isolation <input type="checkbox"/> Fume Hood <input type="checkbox"/> Canopy duct <input type="checkbox"/> Elephant Trunk/Snorkel <input type="checkbox"/> Machine Guard <input type="checkbox"/> Barrier <input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
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What specific safety and hazard references (e.g., SDS, operator instruction manual, standard operating procedure) were consulted and what safety/hazard training was completed prior to work with the substance or equipment that was involved in the incident? (Please include dates of training)

What emergency safety equipment or supplies were used?	<input type="checkbox"/> Eyewash <input type="checkbox"/> Fire Extinguisher <input type="checkbox"/> Safety Shower <input type="checkbox"/> Spill Kit <input type="checkbox"/> First Aid Kit <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
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Was an emergency call made to University Police (x41991 or 911)? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Was emergency transport needed? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
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Did affected employee seek medical attention? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	If Yes, where?	Did the employee refuse treatment? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
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What was the response to the accident/incident?

Witness to Accident/Incident? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
List name(s) of witness	
Phone	() -
Phone	() -

Where other Employees Injured? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Phone	() -
Phone	() -

Person Completing Form:	Signature:	Date Signed:	
Department:	Phone:	() -	Date Completed:

Accident/Incident Report must be submitted to:
 Environmental Health & Safety, San Diego State University, 5500 Campanile Drive San Diego CA 92182-1243
 Phone: (619) 594-6778 Fax: (619) 594-2854 EH&S Website: <http://bfa.sdsu.edu/ehs/>



SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & SAFETY

STUDENT ACCIDENT/INCIDENT REPORT

This form is for student incidents or accidents. Please use the Employee Accident/Incident Report for employee incidents. Please complete a report for each incident or accident as soon as possible after the incident or accident was reported. Copies of this form should be sent to the Department Chair and the Department of Environmental Health and Safety for review.

Complete the form by typing or printing the response clearly. Check all applicable boxes.

Name of Student Involved in the Incident: Address: Email: Phone: () -

Date of Incident:(Month-Day-Year) Time of Incident : am/pm Gender Male Female Red ID

Faculty, Staff or Student supervising: Location (Building and Room): Was the Instructor notified of the accident/incident? Yes No

Nature of the Incident/Injury: (Check All That Apply) Body Part Affected: (Check All That Apply)

What happened? Describe how the incident/accident* occurred? Include what occurred prior to the accident/incident: (If more space is needed, attach separate sheet of paper. Include materials, equipment and tools being used. If needed, attach photos or drawings and mark location.) *If accident/incident involved sharps, the Sharps Injury Log must also be completed. If applicable, what object or substance directly harmed the student?

Provide course number and name of experiment or activity: Did it occur on-campus or off-campus? Course No. Experiment/Activity on-campus off-campus

PPE Worn by student: (Check All That Apply) What safety equipment was used to control hazard?: (Check All That Apply)

What specific safety references (e.g., SDS, operator instruction manual, standard operating procedure) were consulted and what safety/hazard training (e.g. pre-lab lecture) was completed prior to work with the substance or equipment that was involved in the incident? Please include dates of training.

What emergency safety equipment or supplies were used?	<input type="checkbox"/> Eyewash	<input type="checkbox"/> Fire Extinguisher
	<input type="checkbox"/> Safety Shower	<input type="checkbox"/> Spill Kit
	<input type="checkbox"/> First Aid Kit	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

Was an emergency call made to University Police (x41991 or 911)?	Was emergency transport needed?
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Did affected student seek medical attention?	If Yes, where?	Did the student refuse treatment?
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

What was the response to the incident?

What steps could be taken to prevent or minimize the chance of the incident from occurring in the future?

Exposed Student Opinion: If PPE had been provided, would this have prevented the incident?	Exposed Student Opinion: Do you have an opinion that any other engineering, administrative or work practice control could have prevented the incident?
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Explain:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Explain:

Witness to Accident/Incident?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
List name(s) of witness	
	Phone () -
	Phone () -

Person Completing Form:	Signature:	Date Signed:
Department:	Phone: () -	Date Completed:

Student Accident/Incident Report must be submitted to:
 Environmental Health & Safety, San Diego State University, 5500 Campanile Drive San Diego CA 92182-1243
 Phone: (619) 594-6778 Fax: (619) 594-2854

And the Department Chair