**The Ohio State University**

**Chemistry Graduate Program**

**Multidisciplinary Track Form**

**A note to students about the multidisciplinary track**

Some research problems of a multidisciplinary nature require a program of training in several fields that is not available from one of the divisional curricula. In those situations, the multidisciplinary track allows a student, working with a faculty member or team of faculty, to develop a suitable academic program. Our department encourages research in emerging disciplines, as well as traditional fields of chemistry. The purpose of the multidisciplinary track is to provide chemistry grad students with the freedom to design the best academic program for their graduate research and future career.

The current divisional course offerings are actually quite broad, and already have sufficient flexibility to accommodate most students engaged in multidisciplinary research. By their choice of electives or by taking a small number of additional courses, most students can acquire broad multidisciplinary training. However, when further flexibility is needed, the multidisciplinary track exists to fill that gap.

There are obvious advantages to tailoring your academic program to complement a multidisciplinary research problem that has been suggested to you by a faculty member, or a team of faculty members. The danger in tailoring your courses around a specific research topic is that things change. For example, students may discover that they are not really interested in a topic. Alternatively, sometimes faculty leave to take a position elsewhere, students find courses more difficult than anticipated, the relationship between students and faculty may not work out, and so on.

The potential dangers should not discourage students from taking advantage of the multidisciplinary track. However, it is best that you enter the disciplinary track aware of both the benefits and risks. If things do not work out, because you are specialized, you might need additional time and/or courses to complete your degree. The faculty and graduate studies office in Chemistry have experience with these situations and can help keep you on track.

The Graduate Studies Committee will evaluate applications for the multidisciplinary program based on the information provided in this application and the student’s academic record.

Graduate Studies Committee

Department of Chemistry

Ohio State University

*[Revised Aug. 21, 2018]*

**Multidisciplinary Track Form**

**Student Information**

**Name Name.#**

[Brutus Buckeye] [buckeye.1]

**Current division Advisor (or proposed advisor)**

[Division] [Advisor]

**Reason for Application**

Describe why a multidisciplinary program of studies is needed, and why one of the divisional course programs is not adequate for your academic plans. Explain why elective courses, or a small number of additional courses, will not meet your needs.

[Response]

**Proposed Committee**

Your advisory committee must include your advisor(s) and have a total of three or four faculty. All must be members of the graduate faculty (have P status in some program). In general, only one member can be outside the Chemistry program. If you assign four members, they cannot all be in the same division. What is your proposed advisory committee?

**Name Division/Dept. Advisor/Co-Advisor?**

1.

2.

3.

4.

**Curriculum**

Students in the Chemistry program take 6-9 credit hours of 6000 level classes from at least two divisions. Students in the various divisions are required to take a total of 15-18 credit hours among required classes and electives from the 6000-8000 level. You cannot propose a curriculum that would be possible within one of the divisions, or with fewer required credits.

What 6000 level (foundational) classes do you propose? List the course number and number of credits, and for classes outside of Chemistry or Biochemistry, also list the title. If you have taken the class, state when and your grade.

**Course Cr. Term Grade**

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

What 7000-8000 level (advanced/elective) classes do you propose? List the course number and number of credits, and for classes outside of Chemistry or Biochemistry, also list the title. If you have taken the class, state when and your grade.

**Course Cr. Term Grade**

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

Total credits from 6000-8000 level proposed classes: **[Total] credit hours**

In what seminars will you participate? Which division will you enroll in, and what will you actually attend?

[Response]

*Note that you are still responsible for all program-wide requirements (6780, 6781, 6782, 8899, and 889x each term).*

**First Year Oral Exam**

If you *have* taken the FYOE, state the division, committee, date, and outcome.

**Division Committee Date Outcome**

[Division] [Committee] [Date] [Outcome]

If you *have not* yet taken the FYOE, you must propose:

*The date of the exam.* It should occur between the first day of summer classes and May 31 of your first year of study. Give a range if you are not certain.

[Date]

*The composition of the exam committee.* Typically, this will be 3 members drawn from your advisory committee, but may include an outside member. It is preferred that your advisor is not a member of the committee, but she or he may observe the exam.

**Name Division/Dept. Advisor/Co-Advisor?**

1.

2.

3.

*Any other requirements.*  In general, the FYOE is primarily about a research article in the general area of the student’s work. Students will also be asked fundamental questions about the paper, especially as drawn from the first year curriculum taken by the student. The exam will use the unified departmental procedure first outlined in the 2017 Addendum to the Procedures document, including the possible outcomes of direct qualification for candidacy, M.S. before qualification, and terminal M.S. (no qualification possible). Any modification of these procedures must be approved by the GSC.

[Response]

**Candidacy Exam**

The Chemistry program requires students to advance to candidacy by the end of the second year of study, or the end of the third year for students required to defend an M.S. to qualify. You should specify:

*The composition of the candidacy committee.* Typically, the advisor will chair the candidacy committee and all members of the advisory committee will serve on the candidacy committee. If you have only appointed 3 total members to the advisory committee, you must appoint a fourth for the candidacy exam. At least one member of the candidacy committee must be from a different division, and only one may be from outside the program.

**Name Division/Dept. Advisor/Co-Advisor?**

1.

2.

3.

4.

*Any other requirements.* The exam will use the unified departmental procedure first outlined in the 2017 Addendum to the Procedures document. Any modification of these procedures must be approved by the GSC.

[Response]

**Research in Progress Talk**

Graduate students give a 30 minute research in progress talk in divisional seminar in the third or fourth year of study. Propose the year and which seminar series in which you will present.

**Academic Year Division**

20xx-xx Division

**Other Considerations**

If there are any other proposed changes to the normal graduate program procedures, list them here. If you have made any proposals above that are outside the stated guidelines, explain them here.

[Response]

**Signatures**

Please submit this form as a Word .doc(x). The program coordinator will circulate it for signature by DocuSign. *Do not edit this area.*

**Student Name Signature Date**

**Advisor Name Signature Date**

*Comments and additional requirements from the Graduate Studies Committee:*

[Response]

**GSC Chair Name Signature Date**