Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry

Program Type:\* 

Degree Type:\* 

Chemistry and Biochemistry (MA)

Provide a brief summary of the proposed program changes and describe the rationale for the change(s):

We proposed to do away with the cumulative exam system for our M.A. and Ph.D. programs. Cumulative exams are currently given in the second year, after the completion of graduate courses as a means to judge breath of knowledge in the field. The faculty feels that these exams no longer provide a significant assessment tool for our graduate students. At the stage of cumulative exam administration, students have already demonstrated mastery of the subject material through passing course examinations. For M.A. students, we believe course exams are a sufficient assessment to earn the M.A. degree. Cumulative exams only serve to unnecessarily extend the M.A. by up to one year.

Requirements for the Degree

Description

A minimum of 30 credit hours of graduate-level courses is required with an overall B average (3.00). A minimum of 18 credit hours must be course work at the 600 level or above (excluding pre-candidacy study, research, thesis or dissertation credits) as specified in the PhD requirements listed below. A maximum of 12 credit hours, 500 level or greater, may be taken in other departments toward the 30 credit hour requirement. No thesis is required.