



Zachary T. Ball
Associate Professor of Chemistry
Associate Chair for Undergraduate Studies

Apr 23, 2014

Re: More about changes to the Chemistry Undergraduate curriculum

Dear Chemistry Majors and Advisors:

This letter answers a few questions that have come up regarding changes to the graduation requirements. You have the option of graduating under either the “old” General Announcements in place when you started at Rice, or under the new General Announcements in place when you graduate. **For most current students, we anticipate that most students will prefer to graduate under the “old” General Announcements in place when you started at Rice.** However, you are certainly welcome to consider both options.

You must complete either ALL the old requirements or ALL the new requirements. You may not pick and choose. However, the table given under “**Lab Course Requirements**” describes combinations of “old” and “new” labs that can be used to complete the graduation requirements under either the previous General Announcements or the new 2014 General Announcements. **That is, for example, CHEM 231, CHEM 365, and CHEM 368 is sufficient to fulfill BS graduation requirements under both the previous General Announcements or the new 2014 General Announcements.**

Changes in Lab Course Requirements

BS: Important notes: CHEM 215 does NOT count as a laboratory course for purposes of this chart for the BS degree. Credit for Chem 215 (*taken BEFORE Fall 2014*) can be used to fulfill part of the research requirement.

Credit for CHEM 700 does not count toward the BS lab requirements.

BS			
“old” lab courses completed		“new” lab courses needed	credit hours*
0	↔	3	6
1	↔	2	5
2	↔	2	6
3	↔	1	5
4	↔	1	6
5	↔	N/A	

BA: Credit for CHEM 215 (*taken BEFORE Fall 2014*) DOES count as a laboratory course for purposes of this chart for the BA degree. Of the three required labs, at least two must come from the list of “core” labs (CHEM 231, CHEM 232, CHEM 353, CHEM 365, CHEM 366, CHEM 367, CHEM 368).

Credit for CHEM 700 does not count toward the BA lab requirements.

BA			
“old” lab courses completed		“new” lab courses needed	credit hours*
0	↔	3	6
1	↔	2	5
2	↔	1	4
3		0	3-4

Future lab course schedule

- CHEM 365 Organic Chemistry Laboratory (spring term starting Spring 2015)
- CHEM 366 Inorganic Chemistry Laboratory (fall term starting Fall 2014)
- CHEM 367 Materials Chemistry Laboratory (fall term starting **Fall 2015**)
- CHEM 368 Chemical Measurement Laboratory (spring term starting Spring 2015)
- BIOC 311 Advanced Experimental Biosciences (offered every year)

and

- CHEM 395 Advanced Module in Green Chemistry (offered Spring 2015) There is no guarantee that it will be taught after Spring 2015.
- CHEM 372 Advanced Module in the Synthesis and Characterization of Fullerene Compounds (offered Spring 2015) There is no guarantee that it will be taught after Spring 2015.

Changes in Math requirements. MATH 101, MATH 201, MATH 212 will be required for both BS and BA degrees. MATH 211 will no longer be required.

Changes in PChem requirements. Two semesters will be required for both degrees (B.A. and B.S.). This generally implies CHEM 311 and CHEM 312, but other courses (CHEM 310 and CHEM 430, for example) are acceptable.

CHEM 310 will be taught Fall 2014 & Fall 2015. There is no guarantee that it will be taught after Fall 2015. **This may affect scheduling for current freshmen.**

CHEM 311 will be taught Fall 2016. There is no guarantee that it will be taught before then. CHEM 312 will be taught Spring 2017. There is no guarantee that it will be taught before then.

Changes in Research Requirements

We are moving from 3 semesters of required research to 8 credit hours of required research.

Changes in course requirements. The requirements for upper-level (generally 400+) work have been changed to specifying credit hours rather than number of courses. This change allows undergraduates to take advantage of 1.5-credit, half-semester courses. Two 1.5-credit courses count the same as one 3-credit course for all students, regardless of matriculation year.

If you have additional question, please see the Chemistry advisor for your college:

College	Advisor	College	Advisor
Baker College	Kincaid	Martel College	Tran
Brown College	Ball	McMurtry College	Matsuda
Duncan College	Gilbertson	Sid Richardson College	Wilson
Hanszen College	Hartgerink	Wiess College	Landes
Jones College	Weisman	Will Rice College	Yost
Lovett College	Marti		

Sincerely,



Zachary T. Ball

Edit history:

Apr 23, 2014: clarified that CHEM 700 does not count as a laboratory course for purposes of the lab requirements.