

Chem 509 course requirements

All graduate students must register for Chem 509 in the Fall and Spring terms during their degree program. Enrolment in Chem 509 requires that students attend Chemistry Department Seminars as described in the attendance guidelines each academic year, and that they give a departmental seminar, normally in the final 12-18 months of their degree program.

Once you have given your departmental seminar, and when you are ready to submit your thesis to the Faculty of Graduate Studies, you will be assigned a "COM" grade for Chem 509. Please note that the memo requesting an oral exam for your thesis cannot be submitted until you have completed all other degree requirements, of which a COM in Chem 509 is one. This means that you must give your Chem 509 departmental seminar *before* submitting your thesis to the FOGS.

Guidelines for seminar attendance

Graduate students are expected to attend nine seminars in each term that Chemistry Department Seminars are scheduled. You are welcome to attend more! If you do not attend the requisite nine seminars during a given term, you will be required to complete some extra seminar-related assignment, to be determined by the Chem 509 instructor.

Bookmark the [seminar schedule](#) and check it regularly, in case of changes.

Before leaving each seminar, students should initial the Chem 509 attendance sheet. Please note: by signing the sheet, you are officially stating that you have attended the entire seminar. This statement falls under the Academic Integrity regulations outlined in the UVic Graduate Calendar.

If there are seminars occurring outside the Chemistry Department Seminar series that are relevant to your research (e.g. CAMTEC, Biochemistry, Physics, etc), you may substitute up to three of these each term for Chemistry Department Seminars, with permission from *both* the Chem 509 instructor *and* your supervisor. To obtain permission, send an email request to the Chem 509 instructor with a cc to your supervisor, **prior** to the date of the extra-departmental seminar you wish to attend.* The email should include full details of the seminar, including a URL for the event. Requests to substitute seminars will be considered on a one-by-one basis.

For all seminars, we expect you to show respect for the speakers and for other attendees. Please make every effort to arrive on time to the seminar. Late arrivals are disruptive for the speaker and the audience.

Graduate student departmental seminars

In 2015-16, graduate students will present their departmental seminars during two Graduate Student Research Days (GSRD). These one-day mini-conferences will take place during the November and February Reading Breaks.** The exact format will vary depending on the number of students presenting, and will be communicated at the start of each term. All graduate students are required to attend these events.

Planning to submit and defend during 2015-16 academic year? Still need to give your departmental seminar? You **must** make the 509 instructor aware of your timeline for completion as early as possible, and no later than Aug. 31, 2015. Planning to finish in 2016-17? The February 2016 GSRD would be a good time to give your departmental seminar – discuss with your supervisor and let the 509 instructor know!

*Permission will not be granted for ad hoc seminars in the Chemistry Department if they take place on the same days as officially scheduled Departmental seminars. ** GSRD dates for 2015-16 are Tuesday, November 10, 2015 and Tuesday, February 9, 2016.