Statement of Mutual Expectations between Chemistry and its Graduate Students

Graduate students in the Chemistry doctoral program are expected to develop a mastery of their field, and gain familiarity with their discipline from arrival to graduation. Students should make the transition from classroom learning to active supervised full-time original research during the first two years of their graduate career.

In particular, doctoral students in Chemistry who arrive with a baccalaureate degree normally will:
* Choose a thesis adviser by December of the first year.
* Become engaged in research in January of the first year.
* Secure advancement to candidacy within five semesters.
* Submit a minimum of one paper – and more normally several papers – for publication prior to graduation.
* Complete all requirements and graduate within 5-6 years.

Graduate students in the Chemistry doctoral programs normally may expect:
* A wide selection of courses.
* Advice and mentoring by program faculty prior to the selection of an adviser.
* From their adviser (or, in some instances the program):
  • Regular access and advice during the research and thesis writing process.
  • Training in the preparation of oral and written scholarly presentations; in particular, advice and support for the writing of at least one paper for publication.
  • Introductions, for example at conferences, to other members of the field.
  • Assistance and advice with job searches.