

Biochemistry Electives & Teaching Assistantship Requirements (updated October 2013)

Electives Requirement: A passing grade (B- or better) in a total of 1.5 semesters of additional graduate level courses approved by the student's Thesis Advisory Committee, including at least one advanced seminar (e.g., advanced journal clubs) and one didactic course. In some cases a relevant undergraduate course may be approved. **For the purposes of this requirement, a half-semester course is defined as up to 2 credits, and a full-semester course is defined as ≥ 2.5 credits.**

Option 1:

- 1 half-semester didactic course (usually 1.5 credits)
- 2 half-semester adv seminar courses (usually 1 credit each)

Option 2:

- 1 full-semester didactic course (≥ 2.5 credits)
- 1 half-semester adv seminar course (usually 1 credit)

Option 3:

- 1 half-semester didactic course (usually 1.5 credits)
- 1 full semester adv seminar course (≥ 2.5 credits)

Option 4:

- 2 half-semester didactic courses (usually 1.5 credits each)
- 1 half-semester adv seminar course (usually 1 credit)

Teaching Assistantship: The Department funds student stipends in several ways, including research grants, training grants and individual fellowships. In order to preserve equity, all students are required to teach equal amounts, regardless of the source of their individual stipends. The present requirement is 1 semester (or 2 half-semester) of assisting. This requirement should be completed by the end of the third academic year (the second year in the Department). TAs can be completed in MB and BC Program courses, regular courses offered by Biochemistry or other participating departments, or in undergraduate Biology courses. Note that TAs of half-semester graduate courses will need to complete a second half-semester TA to satisfy this requirement. All decisions on fulfilling the TA requirement are made by the Department and the student's advisory committee.