CHEMICAL ENGINEERING, PH.D.

Learning Outcomes

1. To acquire and demonstrate expertise in selected core subject areas of chemical engineering: chemical process analysis, thermodynamics, fluid flow analysis, heat and mass transfer in the presence of chemical reactions.
2. To acquire a working knowledge of various areas of chemical science and technology and in allied fields, including other engineering disciplines, the sciences, and mathematics.
3. To gain exposure to advances at the frontiers of knowledge in chemical science and technology.
4. To acquire the ability to identify pertinent research problems, to formulate and execute a research plan, to generate and analyze original research results, and to communicate those results through oral presentations and written publications submitted to refereed archival journals.

Degree Requirements (60 Post-Baccalaureate Hours)

For Doctor of Philosophy students, a minimum of 60 credit hours is required beyond the B.S. degree. No more than two courses below the 700 level may be used on the program of study.

For students entering the Ph.D. degree program with a Master of Science or Master of Engineering degree in chemical engineering equivalent to that awarded at UofSC, the Program of Study must show a minimum of 30 credit hours beyond the Master’s degree, including at least 12 credit hours of dissertation preparation (ECHE 899) and six credit hours of independent research (ECHE 797). Elective courses are not required of students entering the Ph.D. program with a Master’s degree. The Department requires that these students also provide evidence that courses similar to the core graduate courses have been successfully completed in the Master’s program or these courses must be successfully completed at UofSC.

Each Ph.D. student must select a research advisor during the first semester after admission to the doctoral program. After a Ph.D. student passes the admission to candidacy examination, an advisory committee of no less than four members will be selected. The committee must include the department chair and one outside member. Doctoral students must pass the comprehensive examination before the start of the student’s fifth semester in the program (not including summer terms). Students should consult the graduate director for information on the format and subjects of the admission to candidacy and comprehensive examinations. Prior to graduation, each Ph.D. student must submit at least three papers for publication in peer-reviewed technical journals. Other requirements pertaining to the comprehensive examination, dissertation examination, and final submission of the dissertation conform to the general regulations of The Graduate School.

Under extenuating circumstances, students may seek relief from departmental degree regulations by written petition to the graduate director.