

PhD in Food Science Courses/Committee/Examinations

Minimum Food Science Course Requirements

<u>Area[†]</u>	<u>Equivalent Courses</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Food chemistry/analysis	FS 460 or 462	3
Food microbiology/safety	FS 416	3
Food processing/engineering	FS 432, 529, 565, 570 or BSysE 581, 582, 583, or 584	3

[†]Prior equivalent coursework may be used to satisfy minimum course requirements. Students may elect to also take companion laboratory courses depending on academic background and interest.

General Graduate Course Requirements

- (1) Food science courses (500-level; minimum 17 credits).
 - Scientific writing (FS 517; 2 credits).
 - Oral seminar (FS 518; 1 credit).
 - Other food science courses (500-level; 14 credits).
- (2) Non-food science courses (minimum 6 credits).
 - Statistics (minimum 400-level; 3 credits).
 - Other non-food science courses (500-level; minimum 3 credits).
- (3) Total graded course + research (minimum 78 credits).
 - Total graded courses (non-research; minimum 33 credits; a maximum of 9 credits of 400-level coursework may be counted toward this total).
 - Research (minimum 45 credits).
 - The maximum number of transfer course credits is limited to half of the total graded credits.

Food Science Competency Areas

- Chemistry/analysis.
 - Microbiology/safety.
 - Processing/engineering.
 - Nutrition, toxicology, sensory, and other related areas.
- (1) School of Food Science faculty will self-assign to one or a maximum of two food science competency areas.
 - (2) Those faculty comprising each identified competency area will develop a general study guide that will be representative of that area to assist PhD students in preparing for their Written Preliminary Examination. Each study guide will include the following:

- (a) Specific topics of importance derived from food science core competency areas established by the Institute of Food Technologists.
- (b) A recommended reading list of book chapters and/or review articles.
- (c) Five example questions that reflect the general nature of those likely to be encountered on the Written Preliminary Examination.

PhD Student Committee

- (1) A minimum of four faculty will comprise a PhD committee; three from the School of Food Science and one non-School of Food Science faculty member. Additional committee members can be added as jointly agreed upon by the student and major advisor.
- (2) The major advisor and the two other School of Food Science committee members will each represent a different competency area, such that three of the four food science competency areas are represented by the committee.

NOTE: Though a single faculty member may self-assign up to two different competency areas, that member will represent one competency area for the purposes of the Written Preliminary Examination.

- (3) The fourth faculty committee member will come from outside the School of Food Science (*i.e.*, statistics, horticulture, chemistry, microbiology, business, etc.) and will be selected based on the interests and needs of the student and major advisor.

Preliminary Examination (Written)

- (1) The Written Preliminary Examination will be conducted by the student's committee, and will be scheduled through the School of Food Science (see Academic Secretary).
- (2) Each committee member will represent a single food science competency area for the purposes of conducting the Written Preliminary Examination, even though a given faculty member may have broader research/teaching interests.
- (3) To help focus students studying for the examination, each group of faculty comprising a given competency area will develop a study guide for the represented competency area. Individual committee members will have the option of providing more specific guidance to students prior to the examination as deemed necessary.
- (4) Committee members will be responsible for developing questions that are representative of their chosen competency area.

- (5) Questions from the fourth committee member (external to the School of Food Science) will generally come from the competency area(s) or field represented by that member.
- (6) Each committee member will grade student answers to each question on a pass/fail basis.
- (7) Students may not schedule the oral portion of the Preliminary Examination until they have successfully passed all sections of the written exam representing the relevant competency areas. Students who fail the written exam for a given competency area will be given one additional opportunity to pass this exam using different questions selected by the representative faculty member. Students who fail the written examination a second time will be dismissed from the program.

Preliminary Examination (Oral)

- (1) In preparation for the Oral Preliminary Examination, a student will prepare a written research proposal and defend their proposal in an open seminar as part of the Oral Preliminary Examination.
- (2) The Oral Preliminary Examination will be conducted by the student's graduate committee and will address (a) the quality and the student's depth of knowledge/understanding of the research proposal and (b) any noted deficiencies from the Written Preliminary Exam.
- (3) The Oral Preliminary Examination is scheduled through the Graduate School at either UI or WSU. Students must check with their Graduate School for additional regulations regarding scheduling of the Oral Preliminary Examination (enrollment requirements, etc.).

Final Defense

- (1) In preparation for the Final Defense, students will provide an open seminar (approximately 40 minutes) describing and summarizing their dissertation research. All committee members must be present for this seminar.
- (2) The Final Defense Oral Examination will be conducted by the student's graduate committee, and is scheduled through the Graduate School at either UI or WSU. Students must check with their Graduate School for additional regulations regarding scheduling of the Oral Preliminary Examination (enrollment requirements, etc.). A copy of the dissertation must be available to the School of Food Science seven days prior to the defense.

- (3) The Final Defense Oral Examination will primarily focus on the content of the dissertation, but might also address food science competencies related to the dissertation research.

Approved by SFS Graduate Curriculum Committee March 25, 2013

Discussed at SFS Faculty Meeting March 27, 2013

Approved by SFS Faculty _____