

THE
UNIVERSITY
OF RHODE ISLAND
COLLEGE OF
PHARMACY



Masters (MS) in Pharmaceutical Sciences
Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Pharmaceutical Sciences

Graduate Student Handbook

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Program Introduction

Welcome to the University of Rhode Island, College of Pharmacy, graduate program in Pharmaceutical Sciences.

The University of Rhode Island, College of Pharmacy boasts a 120 year history of success and innovation in pharmaceutical science research. Pharmacology, pharmacognosy, medicinal chemistry, pharmacokinetics, pharmaceuticals, toxicology, neuroscience and health outcomes research. Our achievements are as relevant today as they were a century ago, as emphasized by our current ranking by the NIH of 8th nationally among 142 pharmacy programs in terms of research funding. We have invested heavily in people and infrastructure. Our college features a growing faculty of energetic, committed internationally recognized scholars and the latest in high-tech infrastructure in our state of the art Avedisian Hall facility and our laboratories.

It is this devotion to exploration and innovation that fuels our commitment to educating the next generation of pharmaceutical scientists. Our Doctor of Philosophy and Master of Science graduate programs are individually tailored to best meet our students' interests and skills. Teaching and research assistantships provide the financial funding, and educational experiences, to support our students' path to graduation. The education obtained here builds the foundation for a satisfying and impactful scientific career. Our goal is to educate scientists who make a difference in the world.

This graduate student guide provides a brief introduction to the graduate programs in Pharmaceutical Sciences at the University of Rhode Island.

Purpose of this Guide:

This guide is intended to assist graduate students and faculty to proceed through the University requirements with as much ease as possible. This guide is meant to be a supplement to the Graduate Catalog and Graduate Manual. **The Graduate Catalog and the Manual will supersede this document.**

Useful Links:

Graduate Manual: <https://web.uri.edu/graduate-manual/>
Forms: <https://web.uri.edu/graduate-school/forms/>
Deadlines: <https://web.uri.edu/graduate-school/academics/academic-calendar/>
Catalog: <https://web.uri.edu/catalog/graduate-degree-program-descriptions/>
Enrollment Services: <https://web.uri.edu/enrollment/>
Academic Calendars: <https://web.uri.edu/enrollment/academic-calendars/>
Graduate Student Association: <https://web.uri.edu/gsa/>
Graduate Students United: <https://www.urigau.org/>

Program Description

Faculty

Health Outcomes: Specialization Coordinator: Dr. Ami Vyas
Major Professors: Drs. Buchanan, Caffrey, Kogut, Vyas and Wen.

Medicinal Chemistry and Pharmacognosy: Specialization Coordinator: Dr. David Rowley
Major Professors: Drs. Cho, King, Li, Seeram, and Rowley.

Pharmaceutics and Pharmacokinetics: Specialization Coordinator: Dr. Xinyuan Chen
Major Professors: Drs. Achour, Chen, Fischer, Meenach, and Menon.

Pharmacology and Toxicology: Specialization Coordinator: Dr. Nisanne Ghonem,
Major Professors: Drs. Alber, Chichester, Clements, Deng, Fallini, Ghonem, King, Kovoov, Manuel, Quinlan, Ramsey, Ross, Slitt, Snyder, Van Nostrand, and Zawia

Specializations

Health Outcomes: Research encompassing clinical, humanistic and economic outcomes using pharmacoepidemiologic and pharmaco-economic designs to measure and evaluate outcomes of medication therapy and other health care interventions in populations. Focus areas include comparative effectiveness and safety research, cost-effectiveness analysis, medication adherence, epidemiologic methods development, and health services research.

Medicinal Chemistry and Pharmacognosy: Molecular mechanisms of chemical carcinogenesis; mutation and repair; DNA synthesis; screening, isolation, and structure elucidation of physiologically-active natural products; biosynthesis of microbial and plant natural products; herbal medicine; structural bioinformatics; and structure-based drug design.

Pharmaceutics and Pharmacokinetics: Design, development, production, evaluation, and regulatory approval of pharmaceutical and self-care products as well as pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic studies using virtual, clinical, and preclinical data, often with an emphasis on population approaches.

Pharmacology and Toxicology: Mechanisms involved in disease states and their pharmacological intervention, and mechanisms of toxicity of environmental agents. Ongoing topics include the effects of hormonal imbalances on cardiac function and metabolism in hypertension, biomarkers and treatment of arthritis, developmental neurotoxicity of environmental agents, hepatotoxicity and nephrotoxicity of heavy metals, pharmacogenomics, drug interactions, drug metabolism and drug transporters, and the development of inhibitors to cell signaling events.

Master of Science

Thesis & Non-Thesis Option

Timeline

It usually takes 2 years to complete an M.S. degree. However, the Graduate School allows up to 5 years, not including Leaves of Absence approved by the Graduate School, to complete your M.S. degree. Students are required to maintain continuous registration until graduation.

Course Work Requirements

Graduate Students are responsible to check for most up-to-date information in the graduate school catalog.

Graduate Seminar Registration and Attendance Requirement

MS and PhD graduate students are required to register for seminar once per academic year. All students are required to attend and participate in Graduate Seminar courses (PHC693/694) every semester seminar is offered - irrespective of whether they are enrolled for credit. Specialization requirements may vary, and you can request exceptions from the seminar coordinator.

Petitioning

Under special circumstances, appropriate courses that are not on the list may be petitioned for use as a core requirement. Email petitions are preferable. The Graduate Program Director will evaluate such requests.

Program of Study (thesis and non-thesis)

A program of study form, signed by the student, major professor, and the Graduate Program Director or Department Chair, should be completed and submitted to the Dean of the Graduate School by all students after completing one semester of full-time study. It is ideal to complete one's program of study as soon as possible, and no later than the end of the second semester. (<https://web.uri.edu/graduate-school/forms/>)

Thesis Requirement

A thesis is required for all full-time and part-time students. A total of 6 credit hours under PHC599 are accepted for the thesis research program; however, additional credits may also be taken appropriate to any remaining research to be completed. The number of credit hours given each semester is variable and is determined in consultation with the major professor.

Thesis Committee

A thesis committee consisting of at least three graduate faculty members (including the major professor) must be established for each student. One member of this committee must be from another department. PLEASE SEE DIAGRAM IN APPENDIX B (page 22).

Establishment of a graduate program committee form (<https://web.uri.edu/graduate-school/forms/>) is used to finalize your selection.

Thesis Proposal

Before beginning research activity, a **thesis proposal** must be prepared that describes the proposed research. The thesis proposal is approved by the major professor and the thesis committee before it is submitted to the graduate school using the proposal approval form. (<https://web.uri.edu/graduate-school/forms/>)

If an IRB or IBC or other protocol is necessary, it is the responsibility of the student and major professor to make sure the guidelines are correctly followed. (<https://web.uri.edu/graduate-manual/degree-requirements/>)

Thesis and Oral Defense

A written thesis document and a formal thesis defense are required. The thesis document must demonstrate a student's ability to report research in a concise, academic format. For requirements and instructions regarding the specific format and expectations for written theses, please consult sections 11.12-11.16 in the *Graduate School Manual* (<https://web.uri.edu/graduate-manual/theses-and-dissertation/>). The oral defense of one's thesis (to schedule defense one needs to file a request to **schedule an oral defense** form <https://web.uri.edu/graduate-school/forms/>) is a two-hour examination to be approved by the thesis defense committee and reported on the **results of MS oral exam** form. If any revisions to the thesis were required, the student needs to also submit the certification that corrections were made from.

Non-thesis Requirement

Capstone Project

For the non-thesis Master's degree, a capstone/culminating experience (e.g. major paper, written technical report, review article) approved by a faculty advisor and College of Pharmacy Graduate Program Director is required and should be taken in the third or fourth semester. Before starting the project, students must fill out the Capstone Project Agreement and submit to Kathy with all the appropriate signatures.

Nomination to Graduate (both Thesis and Non-thesis requirement)

During the final semester, the major professor must prepare and submit a **nomination to graduate** form (<https://web.uri.edu/graduate-school/forms/>) for a student to graduate that semester.

Forms Submitted

The following list names the major items that must be approved and on file at the Graduate School. The forms for each of these and many other related items may be obtained from the Graduate School's website at: <https://web.uri.edu/graduate-school/forms/>

Summation of Master's Forms

Thesis:

Establishment of a Master's Committee
Program of Study Master's Thesis
Thesis Proposal Approval Form
Request to Schedule an Oral Defense of a Master's Thesis
Nomination for Graduation – Master's Degree

Non-Thesis:

Program of Study
Capstone Project
Nomination for Graduation

Doctor of Philosophy

Admission Policy

Students may be admitted to the Ph.D. program by three possible modes:

- Directly on admission to the URI graduate program (e.g. persons who already have a B.S. or M.S. degree (or equivalent) from a recognized University, such degree deemed to be equivalent to a URI M.S. degree in a related area of study.
- Upon completion of all the requirements of the M.S. degree, within the graduating semester, a current student can apply to be admitted into the PhD program by completing and submitting the request to add/change a degree program form. A student must have support from a mentor. <https://web.uri.edu/graduate-school/forms/>
- A PhD qualifying examination is required for candidates accepted without the master's degree. There are two methods to achieve this requirement, please see the PhD Qualifying Exam section.

Timeline

It usually takes 3 years to complete a Ph.D. degree for students with an M.S. degree. It usually takes 5 years to complete a Ph.D. degree for students without an M.S. degree. However, Graduate School allows up to 7 years, not including Leaves of Absence approved by the Graduate School, to complete your Ph.D. degree. Students are required to maintain continuous registration until graduation.

Course Work Requirements

Graduate Students are responsible to check for most up-to-date information in the Graduate School Catalog.

PhD Qualifying Exam

- First, the current catalog language states “This requirement is satisfied by completing, with a grade of B or better, PHC 502 and six credits from BPS 530, BPS 535, BPS 546, BPS 551, BPS 552, BPS 587, BPS 641, PHP 540, PHP 550 or PHP 580 within the first two academic semesters.”
- Second, if you do not satisfy the course requirements or choose to take the Ph.D. Qualifying Written Examination, the examination will be scheduled by the Graduate Director, or his/her designee, upon written request by eligible candidates. The Graduate Director, or his/her designee, will appoint an Examining Committee of at least three faculty i.e. the Chairperson of the Department, or his/her designee, the Major Professor and at least one other faculty person. The examination will be in written form and designed to measure potential rather than achievement. Each of the three examiners will independently grade the student and an overall grade of 80%, and no grade less than 70%, shall be required in order to pass the examination.

Please be aware, graduate students admitted to the Ph.D. program who already have an M.S. degree from a U.S. university shall not normally be required to take the Ph.D. Qualifying

Examinations. However, such students may be required to take the exam if their committee so recommends within a period of up to two years from admission to the Ph.D. Program.

Students transferring credits from M.S. degree

Doctoral students transferring credits from an M.S. degree program must complete a minimum of 12 course credits, excluding PHC 693/694, PHC 599 and special problems courses, selected in consultation with the major advisor. The number of transfer credits will depend on the relevance of the student's M.S. degree to the program and the course requirements of the specialization.

For students who hold a master's degree, only 500- and 600-level courses can be counted toward the doctoral program per section 9.21 of the URI Graduate School Manual (<https://web.uri.edu/graduate-manual/distribution-of-courses/>).

Graduate Seminar Registration and Attendance Requirement

MS and PhD graduate students are required to register for seminar once per academic year. All students are required to attend and participate in Graduate Seminar courses (PHC693/694) every semester seminar is offered - irrespective of whether they are enrolled for credit. Specialization requirements may vary, and you can request exceptions from the seminar coordinator.

Petitioning

Under special circumstances, appropriate courses that are not on the list may be petitioned for use as a core requirement. Email petitions are preferable. The Graduate Program Director will evaluate such requests.

Doctoral Committee Selection

A doctoral committee must be established for each Ph.D. candidate. This committee must consist of at least three faculty members (including the major professor), one member of which must be from another department. This committee should be selected after the second semester of full-time course work (or after 6-9 credits of part-time study), and will supervise the candidate's entire program of study. **Establishment of a doctoral committee** form (<https://web.uri.edu/graduate-school/forms/>) needs to be filed with the Dean of the Graduate School. PLEASE SEE DIAGRAM IN APPENDIX C (page 23).

Program of Study

A doctoral program of study form (<https://web.uri.edu/graduate-school/forms/>), signed by the student, major professor, and the Graduate Program Director or Department Chair, should be completed (electronic form is preferred) and submitted to the Dean of the Graduate School by all students after completing one semester of full-time study (or 6-9 credits of part-time study). It is ideal to complete one's program of study as soon as possible, and no later than the end of the second semester.

Comprehensive Examination

The comprehensive exam should be taken no later than the end of the 6th semester of full-time study. Extensions to the comprehensive exam timing can be requested by the major

professor in writing to the Graduate Program Director and will be granted when extenuating circumstances exist. Students are limited to taking a maximum of 12 dissertation credits (PHC 699) prior to successful completion of the comprehensive exam and approval of a dissertation proposal. The examination will consist of the following two components:

Written Component:

The comprehensive exam may be in the following formats depending on the area of specialization.

- a. The first is a grant format. The student will work independently and develop a research plan that is similar to those submitted to the National Institutes of Health (NIH) small grant program. The topic and format will be chosen by the major professor and the committee. It is the student's responsibility to communicate with the major professor and committee on the topic and format of the comprehensive exam before he/she start working on the written component.
- b. It is the responsibility of the major professor, as they are the chair of the comprehensive examination, to define expectations of the student at the onset of the comprehensive examination process.

Oral Component:

The oral part of the comprehensive examination is administered only upon successful completion of the written portion. The student should take the oral portion soon after completing the written exam (within four weeks). The oral exam shall be no longer than two hours in length. The candidate will first be expected to give a brief (approximately 20 minutes) presentation of their proposed doctoral research. This will be followed by questions from the examining committee concerning the proposed research and prior course work. The oral examination committee shall be constructed following the requirements outlined in section 7.57 in the Graduate Manual (<https://web.uri.edu/graduate-manual/degree-requirements/#section757>).

Dissertation Proposal

A dissertation proposal, which is required for all doctoral students, must serve to concisely and clearly describe a problem that will be investigated through research, as well as how this research will be performed and reported. Proposals should be submitted before substantial research has been completed, typically during the first or second semester in which the student registers for research credits. In all cases, however, the proposal must be submitted to the Graduate School during or before the seventh semester in which a doctoral student is enrolled in their program, and at least 6 months before the dissertation is defended. The proposal should be approved by the major professor and the doctoral committee before submittal to the graduate school using the **dissertation proposal approval** form (<https://web.uri.edu/graduate-school/forms/>). For details concerning format requirements for the proposal, please consult section 7.56 in the Graduate School Manual online. <https://web.uri.edu/graduate-manual/degree-requirements/#section757>

Dissertation Research Requirements

A dissertation is required for all Ph.D. candidates. Refer to the Graduate School Website for detailed information. <https://web.uri.edu/graduate-manual/theses-and-dissertation/>

Dissertation and Oral Defense

A written dissertation document is normally submitted around the beginning of a student's final semester. The dissertation document must demonstrate a student's ability to report research in a concise and academic format. For requirements and instructions regarding the specific format and expectations for written dissertations, please consult sections 11.12-11.16 in the *Graduate School Manual* <https://web.uri.edu/graduate-manual/theses-and-dissertation/>. The oral defense of one's dissertation (to schedule defense one needs to file a request to **schedule an oral defense** form - <https://web.uri.edu/graduate-school/forms/>) is a two-hour examination presented before the dissertation defense committee (composed of the doctoral committee and one additional member (please see appendix). It needs to be scheduled using the **request to schedule the oral defense** form (<https://web.uri.edu/graduate-school/forms/>). Consult section 7.58.1 in the *Graduate Manual* for more information <https://web.uri.edu/graduate-manual/degree-requirements/#section757>. If any revisions to the dissertation are required, they must be certified using the above form.

Nomination to Graduate

At the start of final semester, the major professor must prepare and submit a **nomination to graduate** form (<https://web.uri.edu/graduate-school/forms/>) for a student to graduate that semester. If the student is unable to make the deadlines, the student should check with the Graduate School that their nomination is “rolled” over to the next semester.

Summation of Doctoral Forms

Establishment of a Doctoral Committee
Program of Study – PhD
Results of Written Doctoral Comprehensive Examination
Request to Schedule the Oral Doctoral Comprehensive Examination
Dissertation Proposal Approval Form
Request to schedule an oral defense of a PhD's dissertation
Nomination for Graduation - PhD

Policies and Procedures

General Requirements

It is required that all graduate students in the College of Pharmacy maintain the highest ethical standards in the conduct of their academic studies and research endeavors, as well as make themselves fully aware of and comply with all Graduate School and College requirements.

Office Space/keys

Every Graduate Student is assigned to a specific room for consuming food and beverages as well as studying. If a building/laboratory key is necessary, this can be requested.

Selection of Major Professor and Committee

If a major professor is not picked at acceptance into the program, the Specialization Coordinator, or their designee, will serve as advisor for incoming graduate students until selection of a Major Professor.

The Major Professor shall supervise research, monitor course work, counsel, encourage and foster the intellectual development of the student. However, responsibility for conformity to all departmental and graduate school regulations is the responsibility of the student.

The selection of a Major Professor is a two-way selection process depending on the interests of both student and faculty. A professor may, because of other commitments, decline appointment. Major Professor determinations must be made by the end of the first semester of registration.

Transfer Between Graduate Program Specializations

Students requesting transfer from one specialization into another within the College of Pharmacy Graduate Program should inform the Graduate Program Director, in writing, of the request. Acceptance will be contingent upon approval of the specialization faculty after consulting with the current major professor and review of the full application (similar to the process for new students seeking admission). A revised applicant's statement may be required by the new specialization.

Switching Major Professor/Research Laboratories

It should be clear that flexibility is provided in the program of master's and doctoral students. Committee membership (even the major professor) may be changed when this is in the best interest of the student. A student may change their major professor with the approval of the Department Chair/Graduate Director and the Dean of the Graduate School. For detailed information, please see section 8.50 in the graduate manual <https://web.uri.edu/graduate-manual/committees/#section850>.

Research

Both the thesis-M.S. and Ph.D. degrees require completion of the student's research project(s) and a written thesis/dissertation. The thesis/dissertation will be submitted in accordance with Graduate School requirements. Please see the above MS/PhD sections for detailed information.

Registration Requirements

Full time status for a graduate student is at least 9 credits. If you are on either a Graduate Research Assistantship or Graduate Teaching Assistantship, full time status is at least 6 credits. Please refer to the registration section in the graduate manual, <https://web.uri.edu/graduate-manual/registration/>. For related forms, please use this link: <https://web.uri.edu/graduate-school/forms/>.

- Last Semester Status: 'LSS', Only for Domestic students. Can be reported as full-time degree students on their last semester of their degree program. Must register for a minimum of 1 credit. Not eligible for an assistantship but can be paid on an hourly basis.
- Reduced Course Load: 'RCL', Only for International Students. Can be reported as full-time degree students for any one semester only throughout their graduate school period. Must register for a minimum of 1 credit. Not eligible for an assistantship.
- A.B.D - 'All But Dissertation', For Domestic and International Doctoral students who have completed all comprehensive exams, required courses, submitted their research proposal, and other program specific requirements. Charged per credit hour and must register for a minimum of 3 credits. Eligible for an assistantship.

Scholastic Standing

Acceptable Grades: Graduate Manual, 10.10 (<https://web.uri.edu/graduate-manual/scholastic-standing/>): Graduate work will be evaluated by letter grades, with only grades of B- or better carrying graduate credit for courses at the 400 level. A graduate student who does not achieve this minimum grade must either retake the course and earn a B- or better in it or take in its place a course approved by the major professor or program committee. In courses numbered 500 or above, grades of C or better shall be credited toward the degree. Any such course in the Program of Study in which a student receives a grade lower than C shall be retaken or replaced by a course approved by the major professor and the program committee and by the Dean of the Graduate School.

Acceptable Average: To qualify for continuation of degree student status and for graduation, a cumulative average of B (3.00 on a 4.00 scale) in all work is required. At any time when the academic record indicates unsatisfactory performance, the student's status is subject to review. A student who fails to maintain a satisfactory grade point average or make acceptable progress towards the degree may be dismissed from the program.

Annual Progress Report:

Every student must complete an Annual Progress Report. An email will be sent out in January with the attachment of the form and the deadline is August 31.

Financial Policy

Financial Support

The College of Pharmacy has a limited number of Graduate Teaching Assistants (GTAs) awarded yearly.

In addition, students may be supported as a Graduate Research Assistant (GRA) or hourly payroll by their Major Professor. The extent of that support is to be determined by the Major Professor in accordance with Graduate School requirements.

Summer graduate student support are generally not provided by the College, the possibility of such support is the purview of the Major Professor.

Financial support is provided on an annual basis. The College does not guarantee support for a student's full period of graduate study. Continuing support is dependent on availability of funds, suitable student progress toward their degree and satisfactory performance by the graduate student in their Graduate Teaching Assistantship duties and/or Graduate Research Assistant duties and/or Fellowships.

Awarding of Teaching Assistantships

The primary goal in the awarding of Teaching Assistantships in the College of Pharmacy is to appoint suitably qualified graduate students to assist in our college's teaching activities. The Teaching Assistantships also provide financial assistance to the graduate student.

It is the responsibility of the Associate Dean for Student and Academic Affairs to award teaching assistantships to graduate students. The assignment of duties relative to these assistantships will be the responsibilities of the Associate Dean in consultation with the Director of Graduate Programs and department chairs. The Graduate Program Committee will provide advice as needed.

The duration of these assistantships for MS students will be a maximum of 2.0 FTE (full time equivalent), while Ph.D. students may hold an assistantship for a maximum of 4.0 FTE (full time equivalent). No graduate student will have an assistantship for more than 4.0 FTE. Students on academic probation will not be eligible for college funded teaching assistantships.

The following factors will be examined when making assistantship appointment decisions:

- Commitments for teaching assistants made to incoming faculty (startup agreements).
- Ability of a faculty member to support a teaching assistant's research projects.
- Potential for partial funding of a teaching assistantship with faculty research grant funds.
- Commitments to the pharmacy practice and technology labs for teaching assistants who are licensed pharmacists.

Teaching Assistantships are awarded annually and may be renewed from year to year based upon appropriate University funding, College of Pharmacy needs, a high level of performance by the student in their Teaching Assistantship duties and suitable student progress towards their degree.

Teaching Assistants are expected to be proficient in the English language and meet all University requirements regarding communication in English.

Teaching Assistants must be available for their assignments during the entire time period for which they are being paid as set by the Graduate School.

Travel Support Policy

Students may request travel support from the College to present their research at national and professional meetings and will be awarded money based on the availability of funds. The request should be made at least 3 weeks prior to leaving for the meeting. The maximum award for graduate travel is \$700.00.

Each student is responsible to complete and present a [Travel Planning Form](https://web.uri.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/1223/Travel_Policy_Grad_2022.pdf) https://web.uri.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/1223/Travel_Policy_Grad_2022.pdf to the Dean's assistant or delegate. Approval must be received from the Associate Dean for Student Affairs.

Travel support from faculty grants may be possible. Please discuss with the major professor.

Graduate Awards

Enhancement of Graduate Research Awards (EGRA) (<https://web.uri.edu/graduate-school/funding/egra/>) and Research and Scholarship Excellence Graduate Student Awards (<https://web.uri.edu/research-admin/externalrelations/excellence/>) support and recognize graduate student's achievement in scholarly or creative activities.

Additional Information

Academic Enhancement Center

The Academic Enhancement Center houses the University's writing center and learning assistance program, as well as many other academic support services such as tutoring, study groups, and multiple forms of academic assistance workshops. For more information about available resources, go to www.uri.edu/aec, call 874-2367, or stop by the fourth floor in Roosevelt Hall.

Graduate Professional Development Activities, Programs, and Resources

The Graduate School supports graduate students in achieving their academic, professional, and career goals by providing several opportunities and assistance through various activities, events, programs, and resources. These include Graduate Writing Center, Office of Career and Professional Development, Graduate Success Coaching Center, and Diversity and Inclusion Badge Program. More details are found here: <https://web.uri.edu/graduate-school/professional-development/>

Graduate Student Success Coaching

The Graduate School provides students with Success Coaching to help them with their time management, scheduling, planning, and overcoming obstacles to succeed in graduate school. Details are found here: <https://web.uri.edu/graduate-school/graduate-student-success-coaching/>

Graduate Writing Center

The [Graduate Writing Center](#) provides writing support to all URI doctoral and master's students to foster the continuing development of academic and professional writing skills necessary to succeed in graduate programs and academic or professional careers.

Library Resources

The University of Rhode Island takes pride in the outstanding quality of its libraries. They offer a 24-hour room for group studying, study labs for quiet studying, as well as a fantastic on-line resource center. For assistance: <https://web.uri.edu/library/>.

The Office of Disability, Access, and Inclusion

Any student with a documented disability is welcome to contact their instructor early in the semester so that we may work out reasonable accommodations to support their success in courses. Students should also contact Disability Services for Students, Office of Student Life, 330 Memorial Union, 401-874-2098 (<https://web.uri.edu/disability/>).

URI Bias Response Team

Each member of the University community has a responsibility to foster an environment of acceptance, mutual respect and understanding. If you are a target or a witness of a bias incident, you are encouraged to contact the URI Bias Response Team (<https://web.uri.edu/brt/>).

Affirmative Action

The Office of Equal Opportunity leads and promotes the University of Rhode Island's commitment to equal opportunity; and functions as a support mechanism for the administration, faculty, staff, and students. The Office of Equal Opportunity assists with the development, implementation and maintenance of various programs and policies such as: sexual harassment/harassment prevention training, diversity, discrimination, the Americans with Disabilities Act and Title IX; all of which furthers the University's commitment to maintaining a campus free of harassment and discrimination. For more information please visit, <https://web.uri.edu/equal-opportunity/>

Counseling Center

If your success in this program is being impacted by stress, mental health, personal or family issues, the University offers counseling services for students. You can call the counseling center at 401-874-2288 or visit 217 Roosevelt Hall. Their hours are Monday to Friday 10am – 3pm; appointments are both virtual and in-person. If there is an emergency call after hours and you can talk with a counselor on the telephone. Details are available here: <https://web.uri.edu/counseling/>

The URI Counseling Center has partnered with My Student Support Program (MySSP) to offer a full range of mental health and wellness services for students, including 24/7 real-time support via chat and phone. Details are available here: <https://web.uri.edu/counseling/myssp/>

Health Services

URI Health Services provides a wide range of care that addresses student's physical and mental health and wellness. <https://web.uri.edu/healthservices/>

Psychological Consultation Center (PCC)

PCC is a training clinic that provides services to individuals and families for mental health conditions, behavior problems, and a variety of other issues. <https://web.uri.edu/pcc/>

URI Substance Abuse Prevention Services

<https://web.uri.edu/substance-abuse/update/>

Couple and Family Therapy Clinic

This clinic offers specialized expertise in relationship and family issues. <https://web.uri.edu/cftclinic/>

Hardship Assistance – Rhody Outpost

Rhody Outpost provides URI students who are food insecure with emergency food services and resources. Rhody Outpost Food Pantry is currently located at the Dining Services Warehouse, 10 Tootell Road, Kingston, RI. Contact details are available here: <https://web.uri.edu/rhody-outpost/>. Please contact the Office of Vice President for Student Affairs at 401-874-2427 for help with emergency housing.

Violence Prevention & Advocacy Services (VPAS)

VPAS provides students with support, advocacy, information and resources against sexual violence and harassment, relationship violence and stalking. Details are found here:

<https://web.uri.edu/graduate-school/violence-prevention-and-advocacy-services/>

Safety

All students are expected to be mature and responsible individuals who will comply with all GLP, GMP and other appropriate safety, environmental, and data protection regulations. For detailed instructions, please refer to the Environmental Health and Safety website: <https://web.uri.edu/ehs/>. Students must be certified by the Environmental Health and Safety to work in the laboratories. Please check with your major professor for detailed regulations.

Students working in laboratories at night or weekends shall use a buddy system i.e., there shall always be at least one person closely available who can be called for help shall an emergency arise. Safety is the number one priority in the College of Pharmacy.

Campus Events, Community Activities, and Wellness Opportunities

Various events, community activities, and wellness opportunities are available at URI that include classes, workshops, lectures, and presentations. Details are found here:

<https://events.uri.edu/calendar>

Multicultural Center

The URI Multicultural Student Services Center serves students from historically marginalized communities, including but not limited to race, gender, ethnicity, national origin, sexual orientation, and religious minority. The Multicultural Student Services Center promotes access, equity and individual growth for traditionally underserved students and collaborates with campus partners to provide developmentally appropriate programs and building resources which connect and support the URI community in becoming just and culturally competent global citizens who inspire hope for the future, <https://web.uri.edu/mcc/>

Recreational Center

The driving force in leading the URI Community to “be active, be well, and belong” the campus recreation center enriches the URI Community through diverse, recreational opportunities. Driven to inspire a sense of belonging and to promote a life-long commitment to holistic well-being. Our facilities are open to all URI students/faculty/staff and community members with a Campus Rec Membership. The Anna Fascitelli Fitness and Wellness center, Outdoor Recreation Fields, Sailing Center, Keaney Complex and gymnasium, Mackal Field House, and the Tootel Aquatic Center including a diving, lap, and warm pool. For more information about the available facilities, <https://web.uri.edu/campusrec/facilities/>

Religious Organizations

URI is rich with religious diversity, to learn more about worship opportunities on campus click on the link below to explore the URI Chaplains Association website to see all offerings, <https://web.uri.edu/chaplains/>

Gender and Sexuality Center

The University of Rhode Island's Gender and Sexuality Center, located at 19 Upper College Road, Kingston, RI 02881, is a cultural department that allows students, faculty, and staff to explore and affirm their multiple and intersecting identities, especially surrounding gender and sexuality. The Gender and Sexuality Center prides itself on providing Education, Engagement, and Support for the URI campus community and beyond. Education programs allow the entire URI community to explore concepts related to LGBTQ people and issues. Engagement programs provide an opportunity for people to meet and create meaningful relationships with each other. Finally, Support programs give students, faculty, and staff a place and time to receive and offer the benefit of community support for whatever issues our community member's encounter. Learn more by exploring their website <https://web.uri.edu/gender-sexuality/>

Student Organizations

There are multiple clubs and organizations to get involved with on campus. The College of Pharmacy student organization link is <https://web.uri.edu/pharmacy/students/student-organizations/>. Two other resources below are curated by The Memorial Union and The URI Website of all the available options and how to get involved.

Memorial Union: <https://urinvolved.uri.edu/organizations>

URI Website: <https://web.uri.edu/studentinvolvement/student-groups/student-organizations/>

Places to Eat on Campus

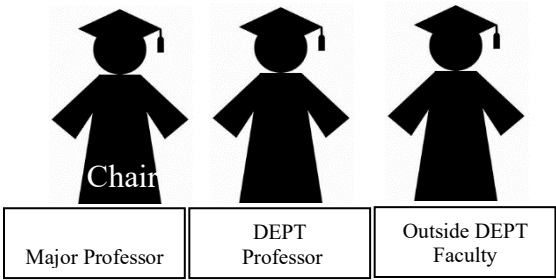
URI offers numerous dining hall, cafe, and restaurant options that cater to both students with and without dining hall plans. Explore below the on-campus offerings, https://events.uri.edu/search/places?business_types%5B%5D=37599086720752

The Emporium is located at 99 Fortin Rd, Kingston, RI 02881, at the top of campus and offers a myriad of restaurants ranging from Dunkin Donuts, to Simply Thai, to International Pockets Café and many more! There is something for everyone at The Emporium.

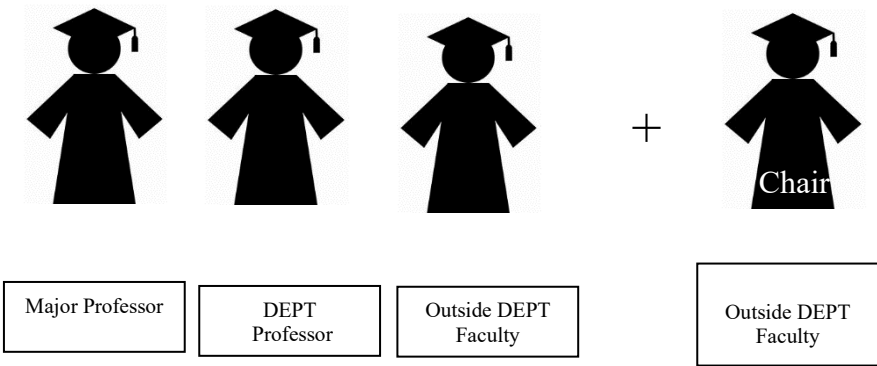
Important Telephone Numbers

Animal Handling	401-874-4328
Campus Police	401-874-2121 (Emergency); 401-874-4910 (Non-emergency)
Library Resource	401-874-2653
Poison Control	1-800-222-1222
Rescue	401-874-2121
Safety and Risk (chemical): Environmental Health Safety (EHS):	401-874-2591 401-874-7019

Appendix A. MS Committee Diagram

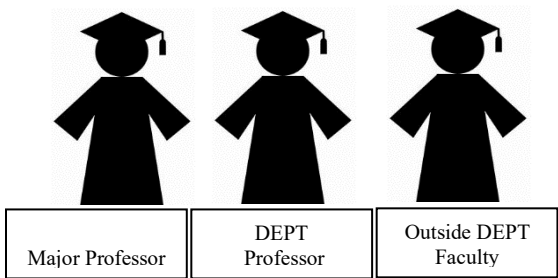


Master's Defense Committee: Minimum 4

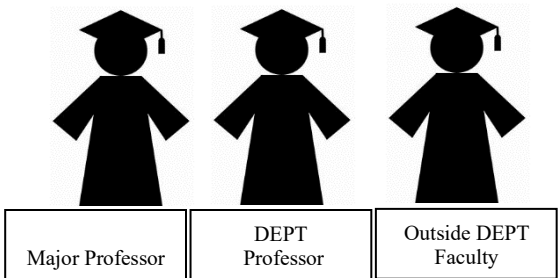


Appendix B. Ph.D. Committee Diagram

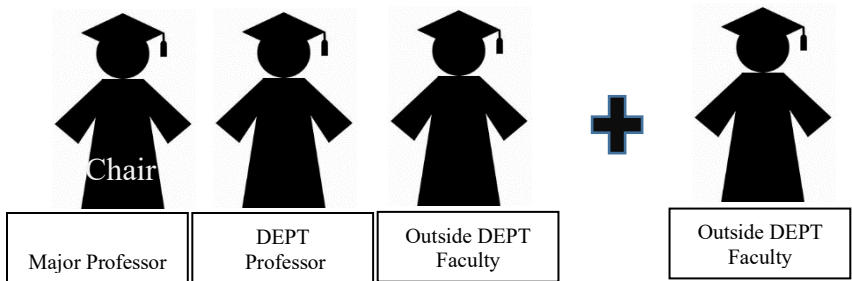
Doctoral Committee: Minimum 3 members



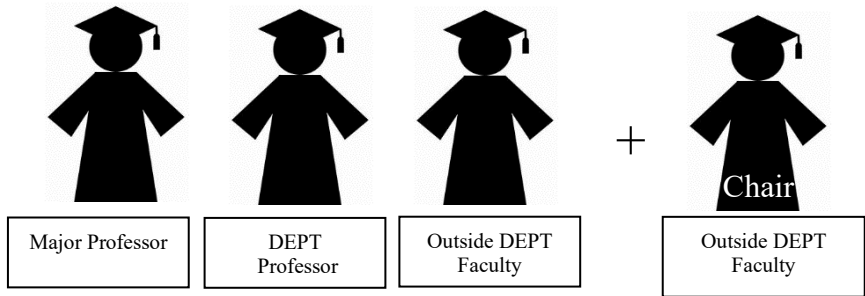
Doctoral Written Comprehensive Examination Committee



Doctoral Oral Comprehensive Examination Committee



Dissertation Defense Committee



Appendix C. Graduate Program Administration

Address	URI College of Pharmacy Graduate Education Office 7 Greenhouse Road, 125 Avedisian Hall Kingston, RI 02881
Phone	401-874-2789 401-874-5014 (fax)
Email	khayes@uri.edu
Program Secretary	Kathleen Hayes
Dean	E. Paul Larrat, Ph.D.
Director for Graduate Programs	Deyu Li, Ph.D.
Department of Biomedical and Pharmaceutical Sciences (chair)	Navindra Seeram, Ph.D.
Department of Pharmacy Practice (chair)	Kerry LaPlante, Pharm.D.
Graduate Program Specialization Advisors	Ami Vyas, Ph.D. Health Outcomes David Rowley, Ph.D. Medicinal Chemistry and Pharmacognosy Xinyuan Chen, Ph.D. Pharmaceutics and Pharmacokinetics Nisanne Ghonem, Ph.D. Pharmacology and Toxicology

Appendix D. Graduate Degree Requirements Timeline

	Masters	Ph.D.
Program of Study (POS) - Select major professor - Develop POS with major professor - Submit POS to Graduate Program Director	1st semester 2nd semester 2nd semester	1st semester 3rd semester 3rd semester
Qualifying Requirements	not required	end of 4th semester
Masters/Doctoral Committee - Select committee and submit form	By end of 2nd semester	By end of 2nd semester
Comprehensive Examinations - submit request to department chair	not required	end of 6th semester
Thesis/Dissertation Proposal - meet with committee - submit final proposal to committee members - submit signed proposal to Graduate School	prior to submitting proposal / conducting research 14 days prior to submission deadline (2 nd semester) deadline set by Graduate School	prior to submitting proposal / conducting research 14 days prior to submission deadline (7 th semester) deadline set by Graduate School
Thesis/Dissertation Defense - meet with committee - submit final thesis/dissertation to committee members - submit request for defense and copies of proposal to Graduate School	at least once per year 14 days prior to submission deadline deadline set by Graduate School	at least once per year 14 days prior to submission deadline deadline set by Graduate School