

# Requirements for Honors in Chemistry and Physical Chemistry

A presentation of a research poster and submission of a thesis are requirements for graduation with Honors in Chemistry. All candidates for Clapp thesis prizes must also give an oral presentation. This year, the department is modifying some of these requirements. **Submission of a thesis will still be required for graduation with Honors, and Clapp Prizes will be awarded.**

## 1. Theses

**Theses are due on Wed. April 22, noon. This deadline is unchanged.\***

Theses should be submitted as a single .pdf file by email to [Sheila Quigley@brown.edu](mailto:Sheila_Quigley@brown.edu). If your thesis is too large to send via email, please use Google Drive to submit the file. A guideline for Thesis preparation is posted on the Dept. website - <https://www.brown.edu/academics/chemistry/sites/academics-chemistry/files/SeniorThesis.pdf>

These are the guidelines that the department keeps in mind when selecting the best thesis for the Clapp Prize. **If you have questions about how the thesis should be formatted, how long it should be, what should be included in it, etc. these should all be directed toward your thesis advisor.** You may also choose to use past theses to assist you with these questions. Theses from past years, including those that have won the Clapp prize, are available for your perusal on a Google site. [https://drive.google.com/open?id=1J12XTgLe\\_R-vLsFkoj\\_DyvnUhqVXHq2e](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1J12XTgLe_R-vLsFkoj_DyvnUhqVXHq2e)

\*As of now, the University is maintaining its schedule for making Honor's recommendations and various other degree completion requirements. If these University deadlines change, then we will revisit our deadlines as well and let you know.

## 2. Poster presentations

*The poster presentation has been cancelled.*

The poster component of the Honors requirement will be replaced by flash talks - see below.

## 3. Flash talks

*On one of the days of Reading Period (day/time tbd), we will invite all of you to a Zoom meeting where you can present a flash-talk on your thesis\*.*

A flash talk is a 90-120 second talk with **1-2 slides** that captures a key highlight from the thesis. When submitting your thesis, please also submit your flash talk slides as an accompanying .pdf file. We will post the flash talks slides on a site that all seniors and faculty can access. Flash talks are frequently used at many scientific meetings and conferences, and you should think of it as an 'ad' for your thesis. There will be time for a few questions, and then we will move on to the next flash talk. You will also have an opportunity to invite friends and family to your flash talk (not sure how many yet, as we're still working out the technical details of Zoom and its capacity etc.) Most importantly, we hope that this opportunity to gather with your fellow seniors and concentrators, and to celebrate each others' science, will recapture a small fraction of the community that you have had to so abruptly exit. We also encourage you all to present a more lengthy oral presentation of your thesis to your lab group, and you can share that presentation with others as well. If you will be presenting a longer talk and want to open this up to a broader audience, please email the zoom meeting details to Sheila Quigley ([sheila\\_quigley@brown.edu](mailto:sheila_quigley@brown.edu)) and Melissa Shein ([melissa\\_shein@brown.edu](mailto:melissa_shein@brown.edu)), and we will advertise this information on departmental messaging.

\*We recognize that you may not be able to all gather virtually at the same time, or that presentation of a flash talk may not be feasible for everyone. We will do our best with the scheduling, and will provide a means for asynchronous participation as well, such as posing questions for fellow seniors' flash talks ahead of time.