THESIS BACKGROUND EXAM (TBE) REQUIREMENTS

Written Document
- Project title and overview (1 page)
- Student CV/resume (1-2 pages)
- Research plan (max of 4500* words, exclusive of figures and schemes)
  - Hypotheses and/or research objectives (suggested 500 words)
  - Background & significance and summary & discussion of research progress (suggested 3000 words)
  - Future plans (suggested 1000 words)
- References (no page limit)
- Supporting information (e.g., experimental or computational protocols, spectral or crystallographic data, appendices; no page limit)

Oral Exam: Students present a 20-25 minute PowerPoint presentation in an open session, followed by a closed exam before their mentoring committee.** Students should bring the TBE Evaluation Form to the oral exam.

Timing: TBE is to be completed January 15 through March 15 of the second year. Students schedule the date and time of the TBE oral exam with their mentoring committee and provide each member of the committee with the written exam 7 days before the oral exam. The students should reserve the room for a 2 hour period, but may not need the full 2 hours.

After the Oral Exam: Please give a copy of the signed Evaluation Form to the Graduate Program Office (room 2108 or mailbox). Also send an electronic copy of the written portion of the exam to the Graduate Program Office at gradadm@chem.wisc.edu.

*500 words is ~1-page, single-spaced, 11 or 12 pt font.
**3-member mentoring committee is decided in fall of second year.