# **Qualifying Exam – Quick Reference**

## **Exam Components**

## Report

- A research proposal for your PhD thesis
- Describes your proposed research and summarizes progress to date
- 2,500 5,000 words total (not including references)

#### **Presentation**

- A presentation that describes your proposed research and summarizes progress to date
- Open to everyone, but the primary audience is your examining committee
- 25 30 min

#### **Question Period**

- Two rounds of questions
- Questions typically relate to your proposed work and/or chemistry fundamentals
- Approx. 60 120 min

## **Timelines**

## **Plan and Prepare**

- Discuss project with your supervisor
- Schedule exam

# **Write Report**

 Report is due 2 weeks before the qualifying exam

# Presentation and Questions

Finish the exam

PhD students must complete the qualifying exam **within 12 months** of starting their graduate program.

 $MSc \rightarrow PhD$  transfers should complete the qualifying exam **in the second year** of their program.