

# Biochemistry

College of Science, Engineering and Technology  
Department of Chemistry & Geology  
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Chair: Jeffrey R. Pribyl

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Biochemistry is a discipline which encompasses both biology and chemistry. This rapidly expanding science focuses on the study of the molecular aspects of living organisms. The tools and concepts of biochemistry are important as a foundation for careers in many areas of research and in medicine. Students considering a BA or BS degree in biochemistry should consult the biochemistry advisor for specific information regarding the program.

**Admission to Major.** Admission to a program is necessary before a student can enroll in 300- and 400-level courses. To be eligible for admission to the biochemistry program a student must have declared biochemistry as a first major, completed 32 credits, including BIOL 105 and 106 as well as CHEM 201 and 202 and achieved a minimum grade point average of 2.0. Students should also have an assigned biochemistry advisor with whom they have discussed the program. Applications for admission to the biochemistry program are available in the department office.

## BIOCHEMISTRY BA

### Required for Major (Support Courses, 19 credits):

BIOL	105	General Biology I (4)
BIOL	106	General Biology II (4)
BIOL	211	Genetics (3)
BIOL	270	Microbiology (4)
BIOL	479	Molecular Biology (4)

### Required for Major (Core, 34 credits):

CHEM	201	General Chemistry I (5)
CHEM	202	General Chemistry II (5)
CHEM	305	Analytical Chemistry (4)
CHEM	320	Organic Chemistry I (with lab) (5)
CHEM	321	Organic Chemistry II (2)
CHEM	331	Organic Chemistry II Lab (1)
CHEM	460	Biochemistry I (3)
CHEM	461	Biochemistry II (3)
CHEM	465	Biochemical Techniques I (1)
CHEM	466	Biochemical Techniques II (2)
CHEM	474	Chromatography (2)
CHEM	495	Senior Seminar (1)

### Required Electives (9 credits):

Choose a minimum of 9 credits with approval from the advisor:

BIOL	300/400 Elective
BIOL	300/400 Elective

BIOL 300/400 Elective

**Required for Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree ONLY:**  
Language (8)

**Required Minor: None.**

## BIOCHEMISTRY BS

### Required General Education (4 credits):

BIOL 105 General Biology I (4)

### Required Support Courses (30-33 credits):

BIOL	106	General Biology II (4)
BIOL	211	Genetics (3)
BIOL	270	Microbiology (4)
BIOL	479	Molecular Biology (4)
PHYS	211	Principles of Physics I (4) <b>AND</b>
PHYS	212	Principles of Physics II (4) <b>OR</b>
PHYS	221	General Physics I (5) <b>AND</b>
PHYS	222	General Physics II (5)

Choose a minimum of 7 credits from the following:

MATH	121	Calculus I (4)
MATH	122	Calculus II (4)
STAT	154	Elementary Statistics (3)

### Required for Major (Core, 40 credits):

CHEM	201	General Chemistry I (5)
CHEM	202	General Chemistry II (5)
CHEM	305	Analytical Chemistry (4)
CHEM	320	Organic Chemistry I (with lab) (5)
CHEM	321	Organic Chemistry II (2)
CHEM	331	Organic Chemistry II Lab (1)
CHEM	440	Physical Chemistry I (3)
CHEM	450	Physical Chemistry Lab I (1)
CHEM	460	Biochemistry I (3)
CHEM	461	Biochemistry II (3)
CHEM	465	Biochemical Techniques I (1)
CHEM	466	Biochemical Techniques II (2)
CHEM	474	Chromatography (2)
CHEM	495	Senior Seminar (1)
CHEM	498	Undergraduate Research (2)

### Required Electives (Chemistry or Biology, 8 credits):

Choose a minimum of 8 credits with approval from the biochemistry advisor:

CHEM/BIOL	300/400 Elective
CHEM/BIOL	300/400 Elective
CHEM/BIOL	300/400 Elective

**Required Minor: None.**

## POLICIES/INFORMATION

The first year of coursework for biochemistry majors should include two semesters of chemistry (201, 202), two semesters of biology (105, 106) and one semester of mathematics (selection of course depends on mathematics background). Organic Chemistry should be taken during the second year. It is important for majors to take the biochemistry sequence during the third year. Participation in chemistry seminar is required of all majors.

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**GPA Policy:** Students obtaining a major in biochemistry must maintain an overall GPA of 2.0 with no more than 5 credits of D work in chemistry or biochemistry courses.

**P/N Grading Policy:** Courses leading to a major or minor in chemistry or biochemistry may not be taken on a P/N basis, except where P/N grading is mandatory.

The department is recognized by the American Chemical Society and offers a BS (Chemistry) major that is approved by that organization. Anyone considering a chemistry or biochemistry major or minor should choose a departmental faculty member as an advisor and consult that advisor often throughout the course of study.