Chemistry: Biochemistry Option

Bachelor of Science (BS)

Biochemistry deals with the chemical foundations and properties for all living processes. Research by biochemists increases our knowledge about chemicals and processes that govern the living world and has led to the discovery and development of new and improved medicines, agricultural breakthroughs, and other areas that unveil the mysteries of living things. Those interested in a rewarding career that provides financial security, promotes self-respect and offers the opportunity to work on stimulating and breakthrough projects, should consider a career in chemistry with a biochemistry option.

The biochemistry curriculum prepares students for careers in biochemistry, chemistry and biotechnology and provides an excellent basis for graduate and professional areas of study.

Chemistry students will...

- Gain a rigorous foundation in biochemistry, chemistry, science and math in the context of a broad university education.
- Interact closely with experienced faculty who are recognized for their writing, training, professional affiliations, and expertise.
- Study in the state-of-the-art, first-rate learning environment provided by the newly renovated Magill Hall of Science.
- Have opportunities to pursue research and scholarship that help develop independent thinking and problem solving.
- Have employment opportunities within the department that can provide chemistry-related work experience prior to graduation.

Career Planning

Career preparation is part of the mission of Southeast. 100% of programs offer our students an internship, study-abroad program, clinical opportunity, student teaching or research internship.

Approximately 35-40% of chemistry graduates pursue graduate or professional programs of study immediately upon graduation. The others pursue employment opportunities in chemistry or other fields. Employment opportunities for chemists exist in a variety of fields, such as biotechnology, biochemistry, chemical manufacturing, environmental monitoring and compliance, industrial hygiene, materials science, pharmaceutical manufacturing, product development, quality control, sales (pharmaceuticals, chemicals, instruments), and technical management.

The Office of Career Services in Academic Hall 057 can provide students with professional career counseling and coaching, resume critiques, practice interviews, job search strategies, career events, networking opportunities, and more.

Internships, Employment Opportunities, and Graduate Schools of Recent Graduates

- Biokyowa
- Buzzi Unicem USA
- Eli Lilly
- Exxon Mobil
- Monsanto
- Pharmacia (currently part of Pfizer)
- PPG Industries
- Procter and Gamble
- Sigma-Aldrich
- Missouri State Highway Patrol Crime laboratory
- Indiana University
- John Hopkins University
- Penn State University
- Purdue University
- Southern Illinois University (School of Medicine)
- Texas A & M
- University of Illinois (School of Medicine, Graduate School)
- University of Missouri – Columbia (School of Medicine, Graduate School)
- University of Notre Dame
- University of Wisconsin – Madison
- Washington University
- Numerous other graduate/professional programs of study and employers

Special Options with Chemistry

Southeast offers a Master of Natural Science in Applied Chemistry.

Transfer and Dual Credit Students

If you have dual credit or transfer credit, please visit our transfer course equivalencies guide at semo.edu/transfercredit.
This is a guide based on the 2018-2019 Undergraduate Bulletin and is subject to change. The time it takes to earn a degree will vary based on several factors such as dual enrollment, remediation, and summer enrollment. Students will meet with an academic advisor each semester and use Degree Works to monitor their individual progress.

**CURRICULUM CHECKLIST**

"Critical Courses" are italicized and bolded. Data shows that students who have completed this course in the first two years and have earned the noted grade are most likely to complete this program of study.

**Required Courses:**
- CH185 General Chemistry (5)
- CH186 Foundations of Inorganic Chemistry (3)
- CH187 Inorganic Chemistry and Qualitative Analysis Laboratory (2)
- CH271 Foundations of Analytical Chemistry (5)
- CH311 Foundations of Physical Chemistry (4)
- CH313 Physical Chemistry Laboratory (3)
- CH341 Foundations of Organic Chemistry (4)
- CH342 Organic Chemistry Laboratory I (1)
- CH498 Professional Presentation in Chemistry (1)
- CH531 Foundations of Biochemistry (3)
- OR
- UI331 Foundations of Biochemistry (3)
- UI443 Professional Experience in Chemistry (3)

**Biochemistry Option Courses:**
- BI173 Cell & Organismal Biology (4)
- BI283 Genetics (4)
- BI310 General Microbiology (4)
- BI404 Cell Biology (3)
- CH312 Advanced Physical Chemistry (3)
- CH343 Advanced Organic Chemistry (3)
- CH344 Organic Chemistry Laboratory II (2)
- CH352 Advanced Biochemistry (2)
- CH533 Biochemistry Laboratory (2)

**Additional Requirements:**
- MA140 Analytical Geometry and Calculus I (5)
- MA145 Analytical Geometry and Calculus II (4)
- PH120/020 Introductory Physics I (5)
- PH121/021 Introductory Physics II (5)
- OR
- PH230/030 General Physics I (5)
- PH231/031 General Physics II (5)

Note: Completion of an experiential learning project (undergraduate research or internship) in the major is required. The departmental advisor should be consulted for information about this requirement.

**University Studies Requirements** – some requirements may be fulfilled by coursework in major program
- Social and Behavioral Sciences – 3 hours
- Constitution requirement – 3 hours
- US History requirement – 3 hours
- Written Communication – 6 hours
- Oral Communication – 3 hours
- Natural Sciences – 7 hours (from two disciplines, one to include a lab)
- Mathematics – 3 hours
- Humanities & Fine Arts – 9 hours (from at least two disciplines)
- Additional requirements – 5 hours (to include UI100 for native students)

**SAMPLE FOUR-YEAR PLAN**

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Milestone: maintain 2.0 cumulative GPA

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Milestone: maintain 2.0 cumulative GPA

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Milestone: maintain 2.0 cumulative GPA

A "Milestone" signifies a significant stage for a student in the completion of a degree.

*CH311/312/312 should be taken in the junior year to avoid scheduling conflicts during the senior year with other required courses.

**Degree requirements for all students:** a minimum of 120 credit hours, completion of University Studies program, completion of 39 senior division hours (300-599), Writing Proficiency Exam (WP003), and completion of the Measure of Academic Proficiency and Progress (MAPP) at the senior level. Refer to the Undergraduate Bulletin or Degree Works for additional graduation requirements for your program.

A minimum 2.0 GPA in the major and overall are required to graduate with a BS in Chemistry degree.

Revised 7/10/2018