Forensic Chemistry Option

Bachelor of Science (BS)

Chemistry is the branch of natural science that deals with the properties and classification of matter, the changes that matter undergoes, and the energy associated with these changes. Research by chemists increases our knowledge about chemicals and their roles in the natural world and has led to the discovery and development of new and improved products and advances in medicine, agriculture, food processing and other fields. 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.

Students completing this degree option will complete coursework and experiential preparation recommended by the American Academy of Forensic Sciences and favored by forensic laboratory directors who make hiring decisions. Students earn a chemistry degree while gaining added knowledge, expertise and experience required to be successful in the world of forensic science.

Chemistry students will...
- Gain a rigorous foundation in chemistry, science, math and forensic sciences 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, including dedicated forensic science laboratories.
- Have the opportunity to conduct research that helps develop independent thinking and problem solving.
- Connect with a network of forensic science alumni and gain opportunities for mentoring and internships.

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, Graduate Schools and Programs of Recent Graduates

- Arkansas State Crime Laboratory
- Illinois State Police Forensic Sciences Command
- Missouri State Highway Patrol Crime Laboratory Division
- Saint Louis Metropolitan Police Department
- US Army Criminal Investigation Laboratory
- US Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives
- United States Drug Enforcement Administration
- Numerous state and local forensic laboratories nationwide
- Biokyowa
- Buzzi Unicem USA
- Eli Lilly
- Exxon Mobil
- Monsanto
- Pharmacia (currently part of Pfizer)
- PPG Industries
- Proctor and Gamble
- Sigma-Aldrich
- Numerous additional chemical companies
- John Hopkins University
- Purdue University
- University of Illinois (School of Medicine, Graduate School)
- University of Notre Dame
- University of Wisconsin – Madison
- Washington University
- Numerous additional top-tier chemistry graduate and professional schools

Special Options with Chemistry

Southeast offers a Master of Natural Science in Applied Chemistry, the Forensic Chemistry Track.

Transfer and Dual Credit Students

If you have dual credit or transfer credit, please visit our transfer course equivalencies guide at semo.edu/transfercredit.

To learn more
Office of Admissions
(573) 651-2590
admissions@semo.edu
semo.edu

To explore
the College of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics online, visit
semo.edu/stem

For advising
Center for Academic Advising
semo.edu/advising
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)
- CH167 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)
- CH42 Organic Chemistry Laboratory I (1)
- CH498 Professional Presentation in Chemistry (1)
- CH531/UI331 Foundations of Biochemistry (3)
- UI443 Professional Experience in Chemistry (3)

**Forensic Chemistry Option:**
- CH34 Advanced Organic Chemistry (3)
- CH420 Forensic Chemistry (4)
- CH333 Biochemistry Lab (2)
- CH675 Chemical Instrumentation (4)
- CJ350 Criminalistics (3)
- EV460 Introduction to Toxicology (3)
- FS550 Crime Laboratory I: Microscopy (2)
- FS552 Crime Laboratory II: Blood and Fluids (2)
- MA423 Statistical Analysis for Forensic Science (3)

**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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<th></th>
<th>Fall Semester</th>
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A "Milestone" signifies a significant stage for a student in the completion of a degree.

**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.