Department of Chemistry

Undergraduate Degree Programs
• Bachelor of Science in Chemistry (ACS Chemistry Concentration)
• Bachelor of Science in Chemistry (Chemical Physics Concentration)
• Bachelor of Science in Chemistry (Chemistry Concentration)
• Bachelor of Science in Chemistry (Biochemistry Concentration)
• Chemistry Minor

Graduate Degree Programs
• Master of Science in Chemistry

Careers in Chemistry
Chemistry is the central science, and a degree in Chemistry is highly versatile. It opens the door to a wide range of careers in the chemical sector as well as providing ideal preparation for advanced graduate or professional studies in Chemistry, Materials Science, Bioengineering, Biochemistry, Medicine, Veterinary Medicine, Dentistry or Pharmacy. Other careers for a chemist include Sales, Education and Patent Law. With four concentrations and diverse research opportunities, students can tailor a curriculum to suit their career aspirations.

Our recent graduates have joined the workforce directly (as teachers or practicing chemists at, for example, Eastman Chemical and the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation), advanced to Ph.D. programs at major research universities (such as Virginia Tech and Georgia Tech) and entered a variety of professional programs (M.D., M.D.-Ph.D., pharmacy and optometry).

The U.S. Department of Labor predicts jobs in chemistry to increase annually by 7% through 2026. For further information, see the Occupational Outreach Handbook at bls.gov/ooh/life-physical-and-social-science/chemists-and-materials-scientists.htm

Program Highlights
The program is proud to offer a high level of individual instruction for Chemistry majors.
• Upper level courses, including labs, offer small section sizes and are taught by permanent faculty.
• Both undergraduate and graduate students conduct research alongside or faculty members, and many present their results at conferences or publish them in scientific journals.
• Chemistry has an Honors-in-Discipline (HiD) program, which provides scholarships, offer enhanced, instruction and pairs students with faculty to conduct independent research and prepare a thesis.

Points of Interest
• Three of our concentrations are certified by the American Chemical Society (ACS). The ACS certification reflects the rigor of the curriculum and is of high appeal to employers.
• Our students gain hands-on experience with major instrumentation used in research and industrial laboratories such as gas chromatography (GC), high-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC), and spectroscopies including nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR), infrared (IR), ultraviolet-visible (UV-Vis) and fluorescence.
• The department offers 8 undergraduate and 3 graduate awards annually, each with a $500 scholarship.
• The Chemistry Club, formally the Student Affiliates of the American Chemical Society, brings students together for networking, professional development, service and social events.

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