

Integrated Baccalaureate and Master's Degree in Forensic Chemistry – Chemistry



The Integrated Baccalaureate and Master's Degree Program (IBMP) in Chemistry provides an opportunity for outstanding undergraduate Chemistry/Biochemistry/Forensic Chemistry majors to complete both a Bachelor of Science degree in Forensic Chemistry and a Master of Science degree in Chemistry in five years. In addition to earning both degrees a year early, the integrated programs may include additional opportunities to participate in a variety of experiential educational activities, such as a master's project or thesis.

Admission Requirements

- The applicant should apply to the WIU School of Graduate Studies for admission to the integrated degree program in Chemistry.
- The applicant must have a cumulative grade point average of 3.25 or higher and a major GPA of 3.25 or higher.
- The applicant should request three letters of recommendation from faculty.
- The applicant should submit a statement of purpose and career goals.
- Official transcripts will be obtained from Sherman Hall by Graduate Office staff.

Degree Requirements

The Integrated Baccalaureate and Master's Degree Program (IBMP) in Forensic Chemistry offers students one of the two following plans: (1) the Thesis Plan, which emphasizes research, and (2) the Applied Chemistry Plan. The coursework of a given plan will be determined through careful advising of directed electives. All students will complete the necessary coursework to have a strong understanding in all fundamental areas of chemistry. Both plans will require the minimum 123 semester hours (SH) of the regular Bachelor of Science (BS) in Forensic Chemistry degree program.

The Thesis Plan will include significant portions of research work to be carried out by the students under the guidance of Chemistry faculty mentors. This work will culminate in the completion of a master's thesis in the last semester of the program. The thesis should demonstrate the student's mastery of the basic areas of Chemistry, as well as the completion of a significant research project. The Applied Chemistry Plan will require

an internship where the student will spend a minimum of one semester at a cooperating industrial or governmental laboratory.

Students will be required to complete 123 SH for the BS degree. Nine of these hours may be taken as "bridge" courses, which will also count toward the 32 SH required for the master's degree. Courses taken for bridge credit will require students to complete extra projects and demonstrate a higher level of understanding of class materials. A student must be a senior and accepted into the IBMP in Forensics Chemistry before bridge courses may be taken.

Career Opportunities

There are many opportunities available, including jobs in academia and industry, as well as opportunities in pursuing doctoral studies at various institutions nationwide.



Contact Information

Questions about the program:

Department of Chemistry
Rose McConnell, chair
(309) 298-1538
chemistry@wiu.edu
wiu.edu/chemistry

General admission questions:

School of Graduate Studies
(309) 298-1806 or (877) WIU GRAD
Grad-Office@wiu.edu
wiu.edu/grad

Higher Values in Higher Education

Academic Excellence
Educational Opportunity
Personal Growth
Social Responsibility



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Integrated Degree Course Requirements

Students must complete a minimum of 123 SH of credits to meet the BS degree requirements, including the following:

University General Education Requirements 55 SH

Core Courses 49 SH

CHEM 201*, 202*, 241, 251, 331, 332, 341, 351, 416, 421, 442, 452, 455 or 491; BOT 200* or ZOOL 200*

Directed Electives 7 SH

Either CHEM 370 or 374 and either CHEM 485 or 490

Other Requirements: 28-31 SH

- A. MATH 133* & 134* (Calculus I and II)
- B. PHYS 211* & 212* (University Physics I and II), or PHYS 124 and 125 (General Physics I and II)
- C. LEJA 101 (Survey of Criminal Justice) and 242 (Survey of Criminal Investigation) or LEJA 303 (Administration in Criminal Justice)
- D. Either ANTH 405 (Forensic Anthropology), BIOL 330 (Cell and Molecular Biology), GEOL 110* (Geology), or MICR 200 (Microbiology), CS 305 (Intro to Comp Forensics)

Students must complete 32 SH of graduate credits in one of the following plans:

Thesis Plan

CHEM 580 Seminar	2 SH
CHEM 600 Research	12 SH
CHEM 601 Thesis	3 SH
Directed Electives (includes up to 9 SH of bridge courses)	15 SH
Total program	32 SH

Applied Chemistry Plan

CHEM 580 Seminar	2 SH
CHEM 590 Internship	10 SH
CHEM 591 Internship Report	2 SH
Electives in Cognate Area	3 SH
Directed Electives (includes up to 9 SH of bridge courses)	15 SH
Total program	32 SH

Up to 9 SH of the following bridge undergraduate/graduate courses can be counted toward the 32 SH requirement: CHEM 401G Inorganic Chemistry (4); one of the following Biochemistry courses: CHEM 421G (4) or CHEM 422G (4); CHEM 442G Instrumental Analysis (5); CHEM 452G Forensic Toxicology (3); or CHEM 416G Chemical Literature (1).

