MAJOR

Through a variety of individual courses and sequential programs, the department provides an opportunity for students to explore the nature and significance of chemistry, an area of important achievement in our quest for knowledge about ourselves and the world around us. The student of chemistry is able to become aware of the special viewpoint of chemists, the general nature of chemical investigation, some of its important results, how these results are expressed, and something of their significance within the fields of science and in the area of human endeavor as a whole. The Chemistry major provides excellent preparation for graduate study in chemistry, biochemistry, chemical engineering, environmental science, materials science, medicine, and the medical sciences.

A major in chemistry can be achieved in several ways, preferably beginning in the student’s first year at Williams, but also beginning in the sophomore year. Building on a foundation in general chemistry, organic chemistry, and physical chemistry, a student elects additional advanced courses to complete a major that is consistent with their background in other sciences, interests, and goals. A student’s program might emphasize biochemistry, organic chemistry, physical chemistry, or inorganic chemistry, with additional courses available in analytical chemistry, environmental science, and materials science. Students considering a major in chemistry should consult with a member of the department as early as possible in order to plan a program which best suits their interests and abilities and which makes full use of their previous preparation.

All students begin their study in the department with either Chemistry 151, 153, or 155. Placement at the introductory level is based upon performance on the departmental placement test results and consultation with the chair; results of the College Board Advanced Placement Test or the International Baccalaureate Exam are also taken into account. The first year is completed with Chemistry 156. In the second year at the introductory level, students take Chemistry 251 (or 255) and Chemistry 256 (those students who complete 155 are exempted from 256). Completion of a Chemistry major requires either nine semester chemistry courses or eight semester chemistry courses plus two approved courses from among the following: Biology 101; Computer Science 134; Mathematics 130, 140, 150, 151; Physics 131, 141; or any courses in these departments for which the approved courses are prerequisites. CHEM 155 counts for two courses toward the major, but a single course toward graduation credit. Starting at the 300 level, at least three of the courses taken must have a laboratory component, and at least one must be selected from Chemistry 361, 366, 364, or 367. (The specific course elected, in consultation with the chair or major advisor, will depend on the student’s future plans.) In addition, the department has a number of “Independent Research Courses” which, while they do not count toward completion of the major, provide a unique opportunity to pursue an independent research project under the direction of a faculty member.

Foundational Courses

First Year

Fall: 151, 153 or 155 Gateway courses

Spring: 156 Organic Chemistry: Introductory Level

Second Year

Fall: 251 (or 255) Organic Chemistry: Intermediate Level

Spring: 256 Advanced Chemical Concepts (or 300-level if completed 155)

Elective Courses

319 Integrative Bioinformatics, Genomics, and Proteomics Lab

321 Biochemistry I-Structure and Function of Biological Molecules

322 Biochemistry II-Metabolism

324 Enzyme Kinetics and Reaction Mechanisms
For the purpose of assisting students in selecting a program consistent with their interests and possible continuation of their studies at the graduate level, the following groupings of electives and faculty advisors are suggested. However, a case can be made for selecting courses from the different groups.

**Biochemistry:** Chemistry 321, Chemistry 322, Chemistry 324, Chemistry 326, Chemistry 341, Chemistry 364, Chemistry 367. Students interested in biochemistry should consult with Professors Blair, Gehring, Hart, or Rawle.

**Organic Chemistry:** Chemistry 341, Chemistry 342, Chemistry 343, Chemistry 344T, Chemistry 348, Chemistry 364, Chemistry 361, Chemistry 366. Students interested in organic chemistry should consult with Professors Blair, S. Goh, Richardson, or Smith.

**Physical and Inorganic Chemistry:** Chemistry 335, Chemistry 336, Chemistry 338, Chemistry 361, Chemistry 364, Chemistry 366, Chemistry 368T. Students interested in physical chemistry should consult with Professors Carrasquillo, Peacock-López, or Thoman. Students interested in inorganic chemistry should consult with Professors C. Goh or Park. Students interested in materials science should consult with Professors C. Goh or Park. Students interested in environmental chemistry should consult with Professor Carrasquillo.

While any accepted route through the major would permit a student to proceed to graduate study in chemistry, four electives should be considered a minimum, and at least a semester of research is strongly recommended.

The department’s curriculum is approved by the American Chemical Society (A.C.S.), a professional body of academic, industrial, and research chemists. The A.C.S. suggests the following courses for someone considering graduate study or work in chemistry or a related area: 151 (153 or 155), 156, 251 (255), 256, 321, 335, 364, 361 (366 or 367) and at least 4 courses (two of which must have a laboratory component) from our remaining upper level electives: 319, 322, 324, 326, 336, 338, 341, 342, 343, 344T, 348, 361, 366, 367, 368T, 493, 494, 497, 498, BIMO 401. In addition, students are strongly encouraged (though not required) to pursue independent research in some form. Students completing these requirements can be designated Certified A.C.S. Majors.

**BIOCHEMISTRY AND MOLECULAR BIOLOGY (BIMO)**

Students interested in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology should consult with the general statement under the Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Program (BIMO) in the Courses of Instruction. Students interested in completing the BIMO program are also encouraged to complete the biochemistry courses within the chemistry major by taking 321, 322, 324, and 367 in addition to the first and second year required courses.
BIOINFORMATICS, GENOMICS, AND PROTEOMICS (BiGP)

Students interested in Bioinformatics, Genomics, and Proteomics should consult the general statement under Bioinformatics, Genomics, and Proteomics in the Courses of Instruction. Students interested in these areas are also encouraged to complete the biochemistry courses within the chemistry major by taking 319, 321, 322, 324 and 367 in addition to the first and second year required courses.

MATERIALS SCIENCE

Students interested in Materials Science are encouraged to elect courses from the Materials Science program offered jointly with the Physics Department, and should consult that listing.

THE DEGREE WITH HONORS IN CHEMISTRY

The degree with honors in Chemistry provides students with an opportunity to undertake an independent research project under the supervision of a faculty member, and to report on the nature of the work in two short oral presentations and in a written thesis.

Chemistry majors who are candidates for the degree with honors take the following in addition to a major outlined above:

Chemistry 493-W31-494 Senior Research and Thesis

The principal considerations in admitting a student to a program of independent research are mastery of fundamental materials and skills, ability to pursue independent study successfully, and demonstrated student interest and motivation. In addition, to enroll in these courses leading to a degree with honors, a student must have at least a B- average in all chemistry courses or the permission of the chair. At the end of the first semester of the senior year, the department reviews the student’s progress and determines whether the student is a candidate for a degree with honors. The designation of a degree with honors in Chemistry or a degree with highest honors in Chemistry is based primarily on a departmental evaluation of the accomplishments in these courses and on the quality of the thesis. Completion of the research project in a satisfactory manner and preparation of a well-written thesis usually results in a degree with honors. In cases where a student has demonstrated unusual commitment and initiative resulting in an outstanding thesis based on original results, combined with a strong record in all of their chemistry courses, the department may elect to award a degree with highest honors in Chemistry.

EXCHANGE AND TRANSFER STUDENTS

Students from other institutions wishing to register for courses in chemistry involving college-level prerequisites should do so in person with a member of the Chemistry Department. Registration should take place by appointment during the spring semester prior to the academic year in which courses are to be taken. Students are requested to have with them transcripts of the relevant previous college work.

COURSES FOR NON-MAJORS WITH NO PREREQUISITES

Students with principal interests outside of the sciences may extend a secondary school foundation in chemistry by electing a basic two-semester introductory course of a general nature or they may elect semester courses designed for non-majors. All courses in chemistry satisfy the divisional distribution requirement.

STUDY ABROAD

Students who wish to complete a chemistry major (or chemistry requirements for pre-medical study) as well as to study abroad during their junior year are encouraged to begin taking chemistry in their first semester at Williams, and should consult with members of the department as early as possible.

FAQ

Students MUST contact departments/programs BEFORE assuming study away credit will be granted toward the major or concentration.

Can your department or program typically pre-approve courses for major/concentration credit?

Yes, in some cases, if appropriate course information is available in advance (e.g. syllabi and/or course descriptions), though students should be sure to contact the department. We can give provisional approval in some cases if enough detail is available, but we always ask to see the details after the course is completed before signing off on the major credit.

What criteria will typically be used/required to determine whether a student may receive major/concentration credit for a course taken while on study away?

Course title and description, complete syllabus, including readings/assignments, and complete description of laboratory program. The biggest question is whether or not there is a lab component of the course and whether it is sufficient to fulfill the equivalent lab experience of Williams courses.

Does your department/program place restrictions on the number of major/concentration credits that a student might earn through study away?

No official restrictions, but we advise our students to take the majority of their chemistry courses at Williams.

Does your department/program place restrictions on the types of courses that can be awarded credit towards your major?

Yes. We have several special requirements. Only one non-lab class can be used toward the upper-level major requirements. This is usually the
restriction that causes difficulty with study abroad—where appropriate lab courses may not be available. One of the lab courses must also meet our departmental “quantitative requirement.” In principle, this could be met by a course taken abroad, but we would likely be more conservative in authorizing this equivalency.

Are there specific major requirements that cannot be fulfilled while on study away?

No. In principle, all major requirements could be filled abroad, but laboratory programs abroad are not always sufficiently rigorous to meet our standards. We look for at least 40 hours of wet-lab time for the lab component. Importantly, this cannot be work in a professor's research lab, but must be “exercises” giving our students practice with standard techniques and methods of analysis.

Are there specific major requirements in your department/program that students should be particularly aware of when weighing study away options? (Some examples might include a required course that is always taught in one semester, laboratory requirements.)

Yes. The lab requirements that I've mentioned above are the main complicating factors. Also our first two years of ("introductory") chemistry courses are taught in an unconventional way. If a student had not yet completed all four of those courses before studying abroad, they would need to be aware of special timing that might complicate things. For our first two years of instruction, we teach one semester of introductory chemistry followed by two semesters of organic chemistry, and top things off with a final semester of a course that is somewhat specific to Williams. There are ways to take “equivalent” courses elsewhere, but we would need to work very closely with the student to ensure that all of the pieces fit together appropriately.

Give examples in which students thought or assumed that courses taken away would count toward the major or concentration and then learned they wouldn’t:

None to date, but there may have been times when the lab component of a course was not sufficient and we were only able to assign major credit for a non-lab course instead of a course-with-a-lab.

CHEM 10 (W) Persuasive Presentation--Maximize your Impact

The objective of this course is to introduce a process for preparing and delivering oral presentations with accompanying visuals to enable anyone to maximize their impact. In many fields the ability to transform detailed personal knowledge of a subject into a more broadly accessible message is critical to both personal and organizational success. Often individuals are well prepared as subject matter experts, however, the ability to leverage that expertise into setting a direction or advocating for policy change is learned through trial and error. The instructor of this course has over 25 years of experience presenting scientific and product information in a corporate environment to internal and external customers. This course will focus on a deliberate method for developing persuasive communication that is both engaging and effective. The in-class portion of this course will focus on instruction with a heavy emphasis of “hands on” practice including iterative brainstorming, group sharing and feedback around presentation design, content optimization and oral delivery. The topics for these in class exercises will primarily be provided practice subjects and data sets related to everyday sales pitches and issue advocacy. Student provided topics will also be encouraged. Assigned work outside of class will focus on selected readings, viewing presentations by relevant thought leaders and developing a final presentation on a topic of interest to the student. Students should be prepared to develop ideas they wish to communicate about and preference will be given to students who can articulate concepts they wish to communicate about. This course will utilize Microsoft PowerPoint and Microsoft Excel; students do no need to have expertise in these platforms, however, basic familiarity will be helpful. Adjunct Instructor Bio: Jamie Gardner holds a Ph.D. in Inorganic Chemistry from MIT and leads 3M's Global Fall Protection Laboratory. Over the last 25 years he has focused on the commercialization of Photosensitive, Pest Elimination, Electronic Adhesive, Lithium Ion Battery, Cleaning and Fall Protection products. In pursuit of these efforts he has developed and taught a process utilized to update and influence co-workers, executive stakeholders, customers, external investors and sponsoring government agencies.

Class Format: afternoons

Requirements/Evaluation: final project: students to identify topic of personal interest, develop presentation and present presentation to class

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 12

Enrollment Preferences: preference given to students who articulate a subject they would like to present on; majors or concentrations in political science/economy, public health, environmental studies and physical sciences

Materials/Lab Fee: cost of books

Attributes: EXPE Experiential Education Courses

Winter 2019

LEC Section: 01    MW 10:00 am - 12:50 pm  PORG 10:00 am - 12:50 pm    James P Gardner
CHEM 13 (W)  Ultimate Wellness: Concepts for a Happy Healthy Life

This course provides an opportunity to drastically improve your life by introducing concepts that can start making a difference in the way you feel today! We will approach nutrition, lifestyle, and happiness from a holistic perspective. Students will learn how to tune out mixed media messages and look within to find ultimate health and wellness. Topics include: Ayurveda, cleansing, preventative medicine, mindfulness and meditation, food intolerance awareness, healthy eating and meal planning, deconstructing cravings and overcoming sugar addiction, healthy skin care, and finding your happiness. Adjunct Instructor Bio: Nicole Anagnos is Health Coach and Director at Zen Tree Wellness in Williamstown. She is co-founder of the organic skin care company, Klo Organic Beauty. She also holds a master's degree in education.

Class Format: twice a week for three-hour sessions as a group

Requirements/Evaluation: completion of assignments, class participation, reflective 5-page paper, creative project, and final presentation that demonstrates a level of personal growth

Extra Info: the course will include two individual sessions—an initial health assessment plus an additional session designed to personalize the course and assist the student in applying the learned techniques; there will be several books required for this class

Prerequisites: after signing up for this course please email Nicole at nicole@zentreewellness.com with a brief statement describing your interest in the course and what you hope to achieve in it

Enrollment Limit: 15

Enrollment Preferences: email statements will be used in the event of over-enrollment

Materials/Lab Fee: $85 plus cost of book(s)

Attributes: EXPE Experiential Education Courses

Winter 2019

LEC Section: 01   TR 10:00 am - 12:50 pm   PORG 10:00 am - 12:50 pm   Nicole Anagnos

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CHEM 14 (W)  Epidemiology, Public Health, and Leadership in the Health Professions

Crosslistings: PHLH14 / ANSO14 / CHEM14

Secondary Crosslisting

More and more, decisions in the health professions are being made on evidence from the medical literature rather than solely from the "experience" of the physician or other health practitioner. What kinds of questions (hypotheses) are being asked, and how are they answered, and answered reliably? How does a conscientious health professional keep up with this evidence and evaluate it both critically and efficiently? After a brief introduction to the history of epidemiology, the class will study a selection of "unknown" historic epidemics, and contemporary data sets in small groups, and present their conclusions in class. The remainder of roughly the middle third or so of the class will explore systematically the approaches and research designs epidemiologists use to answer, among others, questions of treatment effectiveness, preventive strategies, and to study cause and effect, e.g., is this exposure reliably related to an outcome of interest. And finally, how does one decide whether that relationship might be a causal one, and therefore actionable. The various research design applications will be illustrated by appropriate historic--some from the "canon" of the public health and clinical literature--or by more current papers. Although the first two weeks of this ambitious course is more about design issues than one of current topics in public health, about week 3--through lecture and perhaps student presentations--will apply the methodological "tool kit" to major current athletic health issues, e.g., athletic concussions and their short and long-term effects. The last week of the course the class will operate as a Journal Club, with individual and/or groups of students responsible for presenting and critiquing the design, conduct and analysis of a paper(s) concerning a current issue. These presentations may also look at athletic health issues. This WS course is designed to be a serious academic experience, with the rigor of a regular course. Adjunct Instructor Bio: Dr. Wright is a medical epidemiologist who first worked with maternal and child health and family planning programs in Alabama and Georgia. Later, after training as an EIS officer at the CDC, he was a resident consultant to both the Sri Lankan and Thai Ministries of Public Health. Still later, he was a faculty member in the Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, in New Jersey.

Class Format: at least three times a week for a total of 6 hours

Requirements/Evaluation: 10-page paper, final project

Prerequisites: course in Biostat helpful, but not required

Enrollment Limit: 18

Department Notes: all interested students will be interviewed by the instructor

Materials/Lab Fee: Cost of books
CHEM 16 (W) Glass and Glassblowing
Crosslistings: ARTS16 / CHEM16

Primary Crosslisting
This course provides an introduction to both a theoretical consideration of the glassy state of matter and the practical manipulation of glass. We do flameworking with hand torches for at least 12 hours per week. While no previous experience is required, students with patience, good hand-eye coordination, and creative imagination will find the course most rewarding. The class is open to both artistically and scientifically oriented students.
Note: if you are required to participate in a sustaining language program during Winter Study, this course meets at the same time.

Class Format: 9:00 a.m. to noon, M-F
Requirements/Evaluation: evaluation is based on class participation, exhibition of glass projects, a 10-page paper, and a presentation to the class
Prerequisites: none
Enrollment Limit: 10
Enrollment Preferences: preference is given to juniors, sophomores, and those who express the most and earliest interest and enthusiasm by email to Professor Thoman
Materials/Lab Fee: $75
Distributions: (D3)
Attributes: EXPE Experiential Education Courses

CHEM 18 (W) Introduction to Research in Biochemistry
An independent experimental project in biochemistry is carried out in collaboration with a member of the Department with expertise in biochemistry. Biochemistry is a branch of chemistry that deals with the molecular details of living systems including the interaction of biologically important molecules. In the Chemistry Department, studies are underway to investigate the structure/function relationship of proteins, the interaction between proteins and RNA and DNA, and the molecular basis of bacterial gene regulation.

Class Format: daily
Requirements/Evaluation: a 10-page written report
Prerequisites: variable, depending on the project (at least CHEM 151) and permission of the Dept. Since projects involve work in faculty research labs, interested students must consult with one or more of the faculty instructors and the Department Chair
Enrollment Limit: POI
Enrollment Preferences: expression of student interest
Department Notes: enrollment limited to space in faculty research lab; since projects involve work in faculty research labs, interested students must consult with one or more of the faculty instructors listed below and with the department chair before electing this course
Materials/Lab Fee: $0
Distributions: (D3)
This course introduces students to the advanced techniques used to study the fate of contaminants in the environment. Students will collect samples, learn a variety of extraction protocols, and become comfortable using chemical instrumentation (GC-MS, LC-MS, AA, etc.) to identify and quantify target inorganic and organic contaminants from various environmental media (soil, air, water, and biota). Studies may include: determination of heavy metals from water and sediment sources, measurement of chemical partition coefficients (octanol-water, soil-water, air-water, etc.), rates of contaminant degradation, microscopic and chemical analysis of airborne particulate matter, etc. This course will meet for approximately 10-12 hours each week for lectures, discussion of reading assignments, laboratory work, and field sampling.

Requirements/Evaluation: evaluation will be based on overall performance in the laboratory, three 2- to 3-page assignments

Prerequisites: CHEM 151 or CHEM 153 or CHEM 155 or ENVI 102

Enrollment Limit: 10

Enrollment Preferences: preference will be given to CHEM and/or ENVI majors/concentrators

Materials/Lab Fee: none

Attributes: EXPE Experiential Education Courses

Winter 2019
LEC Section: 01  TR 10:00 am - 12:50 pm PORG 10:00 am - 12:50 pm  Anthony J. Carrasquillo

CHEM 22 (W) Introduction to Research in Environmental Analytical Chemistry

Representative projects include: Analysis of sediment and fish samples collected from the Hoosic River drainage basin for contamination with polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and soil, plant and aquatic animal samples from southern Vermont for perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and its chemical relatives. This project focuses on techniques used in environmental analysis including trace-level determination of persistent organic pollutants by GC-MS and/or LC-MS.

Class Format: mornings

Requirements/Evaluation: a 10-page written report

Prerequisites: variable, depending on the project (at least CHEM 151) and permission of the Dept. Since projects involve work in faculty research labs, interested students must consult with one or more of the faculty instructors and with the Department Chair

Enrollment Limit: POI

Enrollment Preferences: expression of student interest

Attributes: EXPE Experiential Education Courses

Winter 2019
LEC Section: 01  M-F 1:00 pm - 3:50 pm PORG 1:00 pm - 3:50 pm  John W. Thoman

CHEM 24 (W) Introduction to Research in Physical Chemistry

An independent experimental project in physical chemistry is carried out in collaboration with a member of the Department with expertise in physical chemistry. Current research projects in the Department include computer modeling of non-linear, chaotic chemical and biochemical systems, molecular modeling of water clusters, laser spectroscopy of chlorofluorocarbon substitutes, and observing the dynamics in glasses using single molecule spectroscopy and molecular dynamics simulations.

Class Format: mornings

Requirements/Evaluation: a 10-page written report

Prerequisites: variable, depending on the project (at least CHEM 151) and permission of the Dept. Since projects involve work in faculty research labs, interested students must consult with one or more of the faculty instructors and with the Department Chair

Enrollment Limit: POI

Enrollment Preferences: expression of student interest

Materials/Lab Fee: $0

Distributions: (D3)
CHEM 31 (W)  Senior Research and Thesis: Chemistry
To be taken by students registered for Chemistry 493, 494.
Class Format: independent study
Distributions: (D3)

CHEM 99 (W)  Independent Study: Chemistry
Open to upperclass students. Students interested in doing an independent project (99) during Winter Study must make prior arrangements with a faculty sponsor. The student and professor then complete the independent study proposal form available online. The deadline is typically in late September. Proposals are reviewed by the pertinent department and the Winter Study Committee. Students will be notified if their proposal is approved prior to the Winter Study registration period.
Class Format: independent study
Distributions: (D3)

CHEM 113 (F)  Chemistry and Crime: From Sherlock Holmes to Modern Forensic Science
In this course, designed for students who do not plan to major in the natural sciences, we use a case-oriented approach to explore selected topics of forensic science. These include: (1) the scientific and technological foundation for the examination of physical, chemical, and biological items of evidence, and (2) the scope of expert qualifications and testimony, the legal status of scientific techniques, and the admissibility of the results in evidence. The analysis of trace evidence, including glass, soil, gunpowder residues and bullet fragments, and inorganic and heavy metal poisons are discussed through an understanding of the basic concepts of chemistry and analytical chemistry. Forensic toxicology and pharmacology are applied to the analysis of alcohol, poisons, and drugs based upon the principles of organic chemistry and biochemistry. The characterization of blood and other body fluids necessitate an understanding of serology and molecular genetics. The cases which stimulate the exploration of these areas include: the John and Robert Kennedy assassinations, the Jeffrey MacDonald case (Fatal Vision), the Wayne Williams case, the deaths of celebrities Marilyn Monroe, John Belushi, and Janis Joplin, the authenticity of the Shroud of Turin, the Casey Anthony case, the Tylenol poisonings, and the identity of Anastasia. Interactive demonstration sessions provide an appreciation of scientific experimentation in general and the work of a crime lab in particular. It includes an analysis of evidence and provides an opportunity to learn forensic techniques such as chromatography (for ink, drug, and fire accelerant analysis), spectroscopy (for alcohol and drug analysis), and electrophoresis (for DNA fingerprinting).
Class Format: lecture, three times per week
Requirements/Evaluation: evaluation is based on problem sets and/or quizzes, hour tests, a final exam, and papers
Prerequisites: none; designed for the non-science major who does not intend to pursue a career in the natural sciences; not open to students who have taken CHEM 151, 153, 155, 156/251, or 256
Enrollment Limit: 30
Enrollment Preferences: seniors and juniors
Expected Class Size: 30
Distributions: (D3)
Attributes: SCST Elective Courses
Not offered current academic year

CHEM 115 (F)  AIDS: The Disease and Search for a Cure
Since the discovery of the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV-1) in 1983, modern techniques of molecular biology have revealed much about its structure and life cycle. The intensity of the scientific investigation directed at HIV-1 is unprecedented in history. We now know more about this virus than any other known pathogen. However, the early optimism concerning the prospects for an effective AIDS vaccine has now waned and HIV strains that are resistant to drug therapies are common. We are now three decades into the AIDS pandemic and the World Health Organization estimates that there are more than 34 million HIV-infected persons worldwide. After an introduction to chemical structure, we examine the molecular biology of the HIV virus, the molecular targets of anti-HIV drugs, and the prospects for a cure. We look at how HIV-1 interacts with the human immune system and discuss prospects for developing an effective HIV vaccine.

Class Format: lecture, three hours per week

**Requirements/Evaluation:** evaluation is based on problem sets, a midterm, quizzes, a final exam, and a presentation/discussion

**Prerequisites:** none; designed for the non-science major who does not intend to pursue a career in the natural sciences

**Enrollment Limit:** 45

**Expected Class Size:** 45

**Distributions:** (D3)

**Attributes:** PHLH Biomedical Determinants of Health; SCST Related Courses

Fall 2018

LEC Section: 01    MW 11:00 am - 12:15 pm     Bob Rawle

**CHEM 116 (S) Chemistry and Physics of Cooking (QFR)**

Cooking is a creative and artistic process, but it is based on fundamental chemical and physical principles. In this course, which is intended for students who do not plan to major in the natural sciences, we explore these scientific principles and their application to the kitchen. We draw on edible examples such as chemical bonding and intermolecular forces (salt, emulsification, and spherification), acid-base chemistry (leavening, making jam, and macaroni and cheese), kinetics and thermodynamics (cooking styles and times), states of matter (carbonation, ices, foams, and gels), types of chemical reactions (baking bread, grilling vegetables, tenderizing meat), and energy transfer (kitchen equipment and gadgets). The kitchen is a laboratory—inside the classroom, we carry out experiments to demonstrate and to test these scientific concepts. This course also considers the science behind contemporary ideas in cooking known as “modernist cuisine” and/or “molecular gastronomy”. Bon appetit!

**Class Format:** lecture

**Requirements/Evaluation:** weekly quizzes and problem sets, two exams, and a paper

**Prerequisites:** none, but students who have not taken high school chemistry should consult the instructor

**Enrollment Limit:** 45

**Enrollment Preferences:** seniors and juniors; not appropriate for CHEM, BIOL, or PHYS majors, or for those who have taken CHEM 151, 153, or 155

**Expected Class Size:** 45

**Distributions:** (D3) (QFR)

Not offered current academic year

**CHEM 151 (F) Introductory Chemistry (QFR)**

This course provides an introduction to chemistry for those students with little or no high school chemistry. Students will be introduced to concepts fundamental to studying matter at the molecular level. Principal topics include introductions to the nature of atoms and molecules, stoichiometry, solubility rules and equilibria, gas laws, chemical equilibrium, acid-base reactions, periodic relationships, chemical bonding, molecular structure, intermolecular forces, oxidation-reduction reactions, and related applications. Laboratory work comprises a system of qualitative analysis and quantitative techniques. The course provides preparation for further study of organic chemistry, biochemistry, physical and inorganic chemistry and is intended for students who are anticipating professional study in chemistry, in related sciences, or in one of the health professions, as well as for those students who are interested in exploring the fundamental ideas of chemistry as part of their general education.

**Class Format:** lecture, three times per week; laboratory, four hours per week

**Requirements/Evaluation:** evaluation is based on frequent electronic and quantitative written weekly problem set assignments, laboratory work and reports, quizzes, two tests, and a final exam

**Extra Info:** information about the Chemistry Placement Test can be found at http://chemistry.williams.edu/placement/
CHEM 153 (F) Concepts of Chemistry (QFR)

This course broadens and deepens the foundation in chemistry of students who have had typically one year of chemistry at the high school level. Most students begin study of chemistry at Williams with this course. Familiarity with stoichiometry, basic concepts of equilibria, and the model of an atom is expected. Principal topics for this course include kinetic theory of gases, modern atomic theory, molecular structure and bonding, states of matter, chemical equilibrium (acid-base and solubility), and an introduction to atomic and molecular spectroscopies. Laboratory work includes synthesis, qualitative and quantitative chemical analysis, and molecular modeling. The course is of interest to students who anticipate professional study in chemistry, related sciences, or one of the health professions, as well as to those who want to explore the fundamental ideas of chemistry as part of their general education.

Class Format: lecture, three hours per week; laboratory, four hours per week

Requirements/Evaluation: evaluation is based on quantitative weekly problem set assignments, laboratory work and reports, hour tests, and a final exam

Extra Info: information about the Chemistry Placement Test can be found at http://chemistry.williams.edu/placement/

Extra Info 2: may not be taken on a pass/fail basis; not available for the fifth course option

Prerequisites: all students are required to take the online Chemistry Placement Test prior to registering for the course (and incoming first year students are required to meet with a faculty member during First Days)

Enrollment Limit: 16/lab

Enrollment Preferences: incoming first year students also must meet with a faculty member during First Days

Expected Class Size: 70

Department Notes: one of CHEM 151 or 153 or 155 required for the BIMO concentration

Distributions: (D3) (QFR)

Attributes: BIMO Required Courses;
CHEM 155 (F) Principles of Modern Chemistry  (QFR)

This course is designed for students with strong preparation in secondary school chemistry, including a laboratory experience, such as provided by an Advanced Placement chemistry course (or equivalent) with a corresponding score of 5 of the AP Chemistry Exam (or a 7 on the IB Exam, or equivalent). Topics include chemical thermodynamics, kinetics, structure and bonding, coordination chemistry, electrochemistry and spectroscopy and their application to fields such as materials science, industrial, environmental, biological, and medicinal chemistry. Laboratory work includes synthesis, characterization, and reactivity of coordination complexes, electrochemical analysis, materials chemistry, qualitative analysis, and molecular modeling. This course is of interest for students who are anticipating professional study in chemistry, related sciences, or one of the health professions, as well as for students who want to explore the fundamental ideas of chemistry as part of their general education.

Class Format: lecture, three hours per week; laboratory, four hours per week

Requirements/Evaluation: evaluation is based on weekly problem sets, laboratory work and reports, an hour test, and a final exam

Extra Info: information about the Chemistry Placement Test can be found at http://chemistry.williams.edu/placement/

Extra Info 2: not available for the fifth course option

Prerequisites: students planning to enroll are required to take the Chemistry Placement Survey prior to registering; incoming first year students are required to meet with faculty during First Days; for more information go to http://chemistry.williams.edu/placement/

Enrollment Limit: 16/lab

Enrollment Preferences: CHEM 151 is an introductory course for students with no or little chemistry background. Students who have studied chemistry for one or more years are directed to CHEM 153 or 155

Expected Class Size: 36

Department Notes: CHEM 151 may be taken concurrently with MATH 102--see under Mathematics; CHEM 151 or its equivalent is prerequisite to CHEM 156; one of CHEM 151 or 153 or 155 required for the BIMO concentration

Distributions:  (D3) (QFR)

Attributes: BIMO Required Courses;

Fall 2018

LEC Section: 01  MWF 8:00 am - 8:50 am  Anthony J. Carrasquillo
LAB Section: 02  M 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm  Anthony J. Carrasquillo
LAB Section: 03  T 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm  Anthony J. Carrasquillo
LAB Section: 04  W 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm  Enrique Peacock-López

CHEM 156 (S) Organic Chemistry: Introductory Level (QFR)

This course provides the necessary background in organic chemistry for students who are planning advanced study or a career in chemistry, the biological sciences, or the health professions. It initiates the systematic study of the common classes of organic compounds with emphasis on theories of structure and reactivity. The fundamentals of molecular modeling as applied to organic molecules are presented. Specific topics include basic organic structure and bonding, isomerism, stereochemistry, molecular energetics, the theory and interpretation of infrared and nuclear magnetic spectroscopy, substitution and elimination reactions, and the addition reactions of alkenes and alkynes. The coordinated laboratory work includes purification and separation techniques, structure-reactivity studies, organic synthesis, IR and NMR spectroscopy, and the identification of unknown compounds.

Class Format: lecture, three hours per week; laboratory, four hours per week

Requirements/Evaluation: evaluation will be based on quantitative problem sets, laboratory performance, including written lab reports, three midterm exams, and a final exam

Extra Info: may not be taken on a pass/fail basis; not available for the fifth course option

Prerequisites: CHEM 151 or 153 or 155 or placement exam or permission of instructor

Enrollment Limit: 16/lab
Expected Class Size: 120
Distributions: (D3) (QFR)
Attributes: BIMO Required Courses;

Spring 2019
LEC Section: 01 MWF 9:00 am - 9:50 am Jimmy A. Blair
LAB Section: 02 M 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm Jimmy A. Blair
LAB Section: 03 T 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm Brooke Olson Blair
LAB Section: 04 W 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm Brooke Olson Blair
LAB Section: 05 R 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm Jenna L. MacIntire
LAB Section: 06 T 8:00 am - 12:00 pm Jenna L. MacIntire
LAB Section: 07 M 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm David P. Richardson
LAB Section: 08 W 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm Jenna L. MacIntire

CHEM 251 (F) Organic Chemistry: Intermediate Level
This course is a continuation of Chemistry 156 and it concludes the systematic study of the common classes of organic compounds with emphasis on theories of structure and reactivity. Specific topics include radical chemistry, an introduction to mass spectrometry and ultraviolet spectroscopy, the theory and chemical reactivity of conjugated and aromatic systems, the concepts of kinetic and thermodynamic control, an extensive treatment of the chemistry of the carbonyl group, alcohols, ethers, polyfunctional compounds, the concept of selectivity, the fundamentals of organic synthesis, an introduction to carbohydrates, carboxylic acids and derivatives, acyl substitution reactions, amines, and an introduction to amino acids, peptides, and proteins. The coordinated laboratory work includes application of the techniques learned in the introductory level laboratory, along with new functional group analyses, to the separation and identification of several unknown samples. Skills in analyzing NMR, IR, and MS data are practiced and further refined.
Class Format: lecture, three hours per week; laboratory, four hours per week
Requirements/Evaluation: evaluation is based on midterm exams, problem sets, laboratory performance, including written lab reports, and a final exam
Extra Info: may not be taken on a pass/fail basis; not available for the fifth course option
Prerequisites: CHEM 156 or permission of instructor
Enrollment Limit: 16/lab
Expected Class Size: 100
Distributions: (D3)
Attributes: BIMO Required Courses;

Fall 2018
LEC Section: 01 MWF 10:00 am - 10:50 am David P. Richardson
LAB Section: 02 M 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm David P. Richardson
LAB Section: 03 T 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm Brooke Olson Blair
LAB Section: 04 W 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm Brooke Olson Blair
LAB Section: 05 R 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm Brooke Olson Blair
LAB Section: 06 T 8:00 am - 12:00 pm Jenna L. MacIntire
LAB Section: 07 M 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm Jimmy A. Blair

CHEM 255 (F) Organic Chemistry: Intermediate Level--Special Laboratory Section
This course is a continuation of CHEM 156 and contains the same material as CHEM 251 except for the laboratory program described below: The aim of this advanced laboratory section is to enrich and enhance the laboratory experiences of motivated students of recognized ability by providing a laboratory program that more closely resembles the unpredictable nature and immediacy of true chemical research. Students synthesize, isolate, and
characterize (using a range of modern physical and spectroscopic techniques) a family of unknown materials in a series of experiments constituting an integrated, semester-long investigation. A flexible format is employed in which the students are responsible for helping to plan the course of their laboratory work based upon discussions with the instructor about the previous week's experimental results. Students are drawn from CHEM 156 with placement based upon student selection and nomination by the CHEM 156 instructor. Participants attend their regular CHEM 251 lecture but attend the special laboratory section instead of a CHEM 251 laboratory section.

Class Format: lecture, three hours per week; laboratory, four hours per week; weekly one-hour discussion

Requirements/Evaluation: evaluation is based on the requirements for the CHEM 251 lecture and performance in this special laboratory section including written laboratory reports and participation in discussions

Extra Info: may not be taken on a pass/fail basis; not available for the fifth course option

Prerequisites: permission of instructor

Enrollment Limit: 12

Enrollment Preferences: sophomores

Expected Class Size: 12

Department Notes: course was developed under a grant from the Ford Foundation

Distributions: (D3)

Fall 2018
LEC Section: 01  MWF 10:00 am - 10:50 am    David P. Richardson
LAB Section: 02  R 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm    Sarah L. Goh

CHEM 256 (S)  Advanced Chemical Concepts

This course treats an array of topics in modern chemistry, emphasizing broad concepts that connect and weave through the various subdisciplines of the field—biochemistry, inorganic chemistry, organic chemistry, and physical chemistry. It provides necessary background in chemical science for students who are planning advanced study or a career in chemistry, biological science, geoscience, environmental science, or a health profession. Topics include coordination complexes, thermodynamics, electrochemistry, kinetics, and nuclear chemistry. Laboratory work includes experiments involving synthesis, characterization, and reactivity studies of coordination and organic complexes, spectroscopic analyses, thermodynamics, electrochemistry, kinetics, and nuclear chemistry.

Class Format: lecture, three hours per week; laboratory, four hours per week

Requirements/Evaluation: evaluation is based on homework assignments, laboratory work, quizzes, midterm exam and a final exam

Extra Info: may not be taken on a pass/fail basis

Prerequisites: CHEM 251/255, or permission of instructor

Enrollment Limit: 16 lab

Expected Class Size: 100

Department Notes: for the BIMO concentration, CHEM 256 not required if CHEM 155 was taken

Distributions: (D3)

Attributes: BIMO Required Courses;

Spring 2019

LEC Section: 01  MWF 10:00 am - 10:50 am    John W. Thoman
LAB Section: 02  M 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm    John W. Thoman
LAB Section: 03  T 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm    Laura R. Strauch
LAB Section: 04  W 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm    Laura R. Strauch
LAB Section: 05  R 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm    Laura R. Strauch
LAB Section: 06  T 8:00 am - 12:00 pm    Laura R. Strauch

CHEM 319 (F)  Integrative Bioinformatics, Genomics, and Proteomics Lab  (QFR)
Secondary Crosslisting

What can computational biology teach us about cancer? In this capstone experience for the Genomics, Proteomics, and Bioinformatics program, computational analysis and wet-lab investigations will inform each other, as students majoring in biology, chemistry, computer science, mathematics/statistics, and physics contribute their own expertise to explore how ever-growing gene and protein data-sets can provide key insights into human disease. In this course, we will take advantage of one well-studied system, the highly conserved Ras-related family of proteins, which play a central role in numerous fundamental processes within the cell. The course will integrate bioinformatics and molecular biology, using database searching, alignments and pattern matching, phylogenetics, and recombinant DNA techniques to reconstruct the evolution of gene families by focusing on the gene duplication events and gene rearrangements that have occurred over the course of eukaryotic speciation. By utilizing high through-put approaches to investigate genes involved in the MAPK signal transduction pathway in human colon cancer cell lines, students will uncover regulatory mechanisms that are aberrantly altered by siRNA knockdown of putative regulatory components. This functional genomic strategy will be coupled with independent projects using phosphorylation-state specific antisera to test our hypotheses. Proteomic analysis will introduce the students to de novo structural prediction and threading algorithms, as well as data-mining approaches and Bayesian modeling of protein network dynamics in single cells. Flow cytometry and mass spectrometry will be used to study networks of interacting proteins in colon tumor cells.

Class Format: two afternoons of lab, with one hour of lecture, per week

Requirements/Evaluation: lab participation, several short homework assignments, one lab report, a programming project, and a grant proposal

Prerequisites: BIOL 202; students who have not taken BIOL 202 but have taken BIOL 101 and CSCI 315 or PHYS 315, may enroll with permission of instructor. No prior computer programming experience is required.

Enrollment Limit: 12

Enrollment Preferences: seniors, then juniors, then sophomores

Expected Class Size: 12

Department Notes: does not satisfy the distribution requirement in the Biology major

Distributions: (D3) (QFR)

Attributes: BGNP Core Courses; BIMO Interdepartmental Electives

Not offered current academic year

**CHEM 321 (F) Biochemistry I: Structure and Function of Biological Molecules (QFR)**

Crosslistings: BIOL321 / CHEM321 / BIMO321

Secondary Crosslisting

This course introduces the basic concepts of biochemistry with an emphasis on the structure and function of biological macromolecules. Specifically, the structure of proteins and nucleic acids are examined in detail in order to determine how their chemical properties and their biological behavior result from these structures. Other topics covered include catalysis, enzyme kinetics, mechanism and regulation; the molecular organization of biomembranes; and the flow of information from nucleic acids to proteins. In addition, the principles and applications of the methods used to characterize macromolecules in solution and the interactions between macromolecules are discussed. The laboratory provides a hands-on opportunity to study macromolecules and to learn the fundamental experimental techniques of biochemistry including electrophoresis, chromatography, and principles of enzymatic assays.

Class Format: lecture, three hours per week; laboratory, four hours per week

Requirements/Evaluation: evaluation is based on quizzes, a midterm exam, a final exam, problem sets and performance in the laboratories including lab reports

Extra Info: may not be taken on a pass/fail basis

Prerequisites: BIOL 101 and CHEM 251/255 and CHEM 155/256

Enrollment Limit: 16/lab

Enrollment Preferences: junior and senior Biology and Chemistry majors and BIMO concentrators

Expected Class Size: 16/lab

Department Notes: does not satisfy the distribution requirement in the Biology major

Distributions: (D3) (QFR)

Attributes: BGNP Related Courses; BIMO Required Courses;
**CHEM 322 (S) Biochemistry II: Metabolism** (QFR)

Crosslistings: CHEM322 / BIMO322 / BIOL322

Secondary Crosslisting

This lecture course provides an in-depth presentation of the complex metabolic reactions which are central to life. Emphasis is placed on the biological flow of energy including alternative modes of energy generation (aerobic, anaerobic, photosynthetic); the regulation and integration of the metabolic pathways including compartmentalization and the transport of metabolites; and biochemical reaction mechanisms including the structures and mechanisms of coenzymes. This comprehensive study also includes the biosynthesis and catabolism of small molecules (carbohydrates, lipids, amino acids, and nucleotides). Laboratory experiments introduce the principles and procedures used to study enzymatic reactions, bioenergetics, and metabolic pathways.

**Class Format:** lecture, three hours per week; laboratory, three hours per week

**Requirements/Evaluation:** evaluation is based on several exams and performance in the laboratories including lab reports that emphasize conceptual and quantitative and/or graphic analysis of the data generated

**Extra Info:** may not be taken on a pass/fail basis; not available for the fifth course option

**Prerequisites:** BIOL 101 and CHEM 251/255 or permission of instructor

**Enrollment Limit:** 64

**Enrollment Preferences:** junior and senior Biology and Chemistry majors and BIMO concentrators

**Expected Class Size:** 64

**Department Notes:** does not satisfy the distribution requirement in the Biology major

**Distributions:** (D3) (QFR)

**Attributes:** BGNP Related Courses; BIMO Required Courses;

**Spring 2019**

LEC Section: 01 MWF 11:00 am - 11:50 am Pei-Wen Chen

LAB Section: 02 T 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm Janis E. Bravo

LAB Section: 03 W 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm Janis E. Bravo

LAB Section: 04 R 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm Janis E. Bravo

**CHEM 324 (S) Enzyme Kinetics and Reaction Mechanisms**

Enzymes are complex biological molecules capable of catalyzing chemical reactions with very high efficiency, stereo-selectivity and specificity. The study of enzymatically-catalyzed reactions gives insight into the study of organic reaction mechanisms in general, and into the topic of catalysis especially. This course explores the methods and frameworks for determining enzymatic reaction mechanisms. These methods are based on a firm foundation of organic reaction mechanisms and chemical kinetics. We will investigate the major types of biochemical reactions, focusing on their catalytic mechanisms and how those mechanisms can be elucidated. We will lay the foundation for this mechanistic consideration with discussion of transition state theory, structure-reactivity relationships, steady state and pre-steady kinetics, use of isotopes, genetic modification, and other tools for
probing enzymatic reactions. We will also examine the catalytic roles of a variety of vitamins and cofactors.

**Class Format:** lecture, three hours per week

**Requirements/Evaluation:** evaluation is based on problem sets, quizzes, a midterm exam, a paper, and a final exam

**Extra Info:** may not be taken on a pass/fail basis

**Prerequisites:** CHEM/BIOL/BIMO 321 or permission of instructor

**Enrollment Limit:** none

**Expected Class Size:** 10

**Distributions:** (D3)

**Attributes:** BIMO Interdepartmental Electives;

Not offered current academic year

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**CHEM 326 (F) Chemical Biology: Discoveries at the Interface**

Complex biological behavior is driven by the chemistry of biological molecules including secondary messengers, lipids, proteins, and nucleic acids. Chemists and biologists have recognized that manipulating the chemistry of these systems affords a powerful method to regulate and study cellular activity. The burgeoning field of chemical biology encompasses these efforts. This course introduces the tools of chemical biology, focusing on how small chemical molecules directed at biological systems facilitate answering important questions in biology. Building upon this foundation of chemical and biological techniques, this course will study current applications of these techniques through case studies of recent discoveries. Example topics that may be covered include bioconjugation, chemical genetics, extending the genetic code, activity-based probes and fragment-based drug discovery.

**Class Format:** lecture, three hours per week

**Requirements/Evaluation:** evaluation is based on class participation, short papers, examinations, and a final research project

**Extra Info:** may not be taken on a pass/fail basis; not available for the fifth course option

**Prerequisites:** CHEM/BIOL/BIMO 321

**Enrollment Limit:** 19

**Expected Class Size:** 16

**Distributions:** (D3)

**Attributes:** BIMO Interdepartmental Electives;

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Fall 2018

LEC Section: 01    TR 9:55 am - 11:10 am     Jimmy A. Blair

**CHEM 335 (F) Inorganic/Organometallic Chemistry**

This course covers fundamental aspects of the chemistry of transition metals and main group elements and highlights how these properties are key to understanding the roles of these elements in a range of applications, from the catalysis of synthetic organic transformations, the functions of enzymatic processes, the production of commodity chemicals such as plastics, to the actions of metal-based drugs such as cis-platin. The course introduces concepts of symmetry and group theory, and applies them in a systematic approach to the study of the structure, bonding, and spectroscopy of coordination and inorganic compounds. The course also covers the kinetics and mechanism of selected inorganic and organometallic reactions. Through exploration of primary literature and review articles we will discuss recent developments and applications in inorganic chemistry, such as finding molecular solutions to the capture of solar energy, to cancer treatments and to optimizing industrial-scale reactions.

**Class Format:** lecture, three hours per week

**Requirements/Evaluation:** evaluation is based on problem sets, exams, presentations, and group-based literature reviews

**Extra Info:** may not be taken on a pass/fail basis

**Prerequisites:** CHEM 155 or 256 and 251/255

**Enrollment Limit:** 10

**Expected Class Size:** 10

**Distributions:** (D3)
CHEM 336 (F) Materials Chemistry

Materials Science focuses on the study of bulk physical properties such as hardness, electrical conductivity, optical behavior, and elasticity. Materials chemists bridge the gap between traditional synthetic chemists and materials scientists, by working to understand the relationships between bulk physical properties, length scale (mesoscale, nanoscale), and molecular structure. This course will cover a variety of different types of materials and their properties including solids (insulators, semiconductors, conductors, superconductors, magnetic materials), soft materials (polymers, gels, liquid crystals), nanoscale structures, and organic electronics. We'll examine some of the latest developments in materials chemistry, including new strategies for the synthesis and preparation of materials on different length scales, as well as a variety of potential applications of emerging technologies.

Class Format: lecture, three hours per week
Requirements/Evaluation: evaluation is based on problem sets, reviews of research articles, hour exams, and a final exam
Extra Info: may not be taken on a pass/fail basis
Prerequisites: CHEM 155 or 256 and 251/255
Enrollment Limit: 24
Expected Class Size: 16
Distributions: (D3)
Attributes: MTSC Courses
Not offered current academic year

CHEM 338 (S) Bioinorganic Chemistry: Metals in Living Systems

Bioinorganic chemistry is an interdisciplinary field that examines the role of metals in living systems. Metals are key components of a wide range of processes, including oxygen transport and activation, catalytic reactions such as photosynthesis and nitrogen-fixation, and electron-transfer processes. Metals perform regulatory roles and stabilize the structures of proteins. In medical applications, the metals are central to many diagnostic and therapeutic tools. To understand the role metals in these biological processes, we will cover principles of coordination chemistry: topics such as structure and bonding, spectroscopic methods, electrochemistry, kinetics and reaction mechanisms. Building on this fundamental understanding of the nature of metals, students explore topics of current interest in the field.

Class Format: lecture and tutorial-style meetings, 3 hours per week
Requirements/Evaluation: evaluation based on problem sets, two exams, tutorial participation, a class presentation, and a final project
Extra Info: may not be taken on a pass/fail basis; not available for the fifth course option
Prerequisites: CHEM 155 or CHEM 256 and 251/255
Enrollment Limit: 10
Expected Class Size: 10
Distributions: (D3)
Attributes: BIMO Interdepartmental Electives;
Not offered current academic year

CHEM 341 (S) Toxicology and Cancer

Crosslistings: CHEM341 / ENVI341
Primary Crosslisting

What is a poison and what makes it poisonous? Paracelcus commented in 1537: "What is not a poison? All things are poisons (and nothing is without poison). The dose alone keeps a thing from being a poison." Is the picture really this bleak; is modern technology-based society truly swimming in a sea of toxic materials? How are the nature and severity of toxicity established, measured and expressed? Do all toxic materials exert their effect in the
same manner, or can materials be poisonous in a variety of different ways? Are the safety levels set by regulatory agencies low enough for a range of common toxic materials, such as mercury, lead, and certain pesticides? How are poisons metabolized and how do they lead to the development of cancer? What is cancer and what does it take to cause it? What biochemical defense mechanisms exist to counteract the effects of poisons?

This course attempts to answer these questions by surveying the fundamentals of modern chemical toxicology and the induction and progression of cancer. Topics will range from description and quantitation of the toxic response, including risk assessment, to the basic mechanisms underlying toxicity, mutagenesis, carcinogenesis, and DNA repair.

Class Format: lecture, three times per week

Requirements/Evaluation: evaluation is based on two hour tests, a class presentation and paper, participation in discussion sessions, a self-exploration of the current toxicological literature, and a final exam

Extra Info: may not be taken on a pass/fail basis

Prerequisites: CHEM 156; may be taken concurrently with CHEM 251/255; a basic understanding of organic chemistry

Enrollment Limit: 30

Department Notes: satisfies the Natural World requirement for the Environmental studies concentration

Distributions: (D3)

Attributes: BIMO Interdepartmental Electives; ENVI Natural World Electives; PHLH Biomedical Determinants of Health

Not offered current academic year

CHEM 342 (S) Synthetic Organic Chemistry (WI)

The origins of organic chemistry are to be found in the chemistry of living things and the emphasis of this course is on the chemistry of naturally-occurring compounds. This course presents the logic and practice of chemical total synthesis while stressing the structures, properties and preparations of terpenes, polyketides and alkaloids. Modern synthetic reactions are surveyed with an emphasis on the stereochemical and mechanistic themes that underlie them. To meet the requirements for the semester's final project, each student chooses an article from the recent synthetic literature and then analyzes the logic and strategy involved in the published work in a final paper. A summary of this paper is also presented to the class in a short seminar. Laboratory sessions introduce students to techniques for synthesis and purification of natural products and their synthetic precursors.

Class Format: lecture, three hours per week; laboratory, four hours per week

Requirements/Evaluation: evaluation is based on problem sets, midterm exams, laboratory work, a final project, and class participation

Extra Info: may not be taken on a pass/fail basis; not available for the fifth course option

Prerequisites: CHEM 256 or permission of instructor

Enrollment Limit: 12

Expected Class Size: 12

Distributions: (D3) (WI)

Attributes: BIMO Interdepartmental Electives;

Spring 2019

LEC Section: 01 TR 9:55 am - 11:10 am David P. Richardson

LAB Section: 02 W 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm David P. Richardson

CHEM 344 (S) Physical Organic Chemistry

This course extends the background derived from previous chemistry courses to the understanding of organic reaction mechanisms. Correlations between structure and reactivity are examined in terms of kinetic and thermodynamic parameters including: solvent effects, isotope effects, stereochemical specificity, linear free energy relationships, acid/base theory, delocalized bonding, and aromaticity. For the first 6 weeks, the class meets once a week for an introductory lecture. A second tutorial meeting between the instructor and 2 other students occurs early the following week, for example during the laboratory time period. During this time, students work through and present solutions to an assigned problem set. For the remaining 6 weeks, students execute a self-designed set of laboratory experiments that revolve around physical organic methods. Students present and critique results each week (in the hour time slot). The experiments culminate in a final paper.
CHEM 348 (F) Polymer Chemistry

From synthetic to natural macromolecules, we encounter polymers everywhere and everyday. This course explores the multitude of synthetic techniques available and discusses how structure defines function. Topics include condensation and chain (anionic, cationic, radical) polymerizations, dendrimers, controlling molecular weight, ring opening, and biopolymer syntheses. Fundamentals of composition and physical properties of polymers, and methods of characterization are also covered.

Class Format: lecture, two meetings per week; laboratory, four hours per week
Requirements/Evaluation: evaluation is based on problem sets, participation, exams, laboratory work, and a final project
Prerequisites: CHEM 251/255
Enrollment Limit: 12
Enrollment Preferences: Chemistry majors
Expected Class Size: 12
Distributions: (D3)
Attributes: BIMO Interdepartmental Electives; MTSC Courses
Not offered current academic year

CHEM 361 (F) Quantum Chemistry and Chemical Dynamics

This course provides an introduction to quantum mechanics which serves as the basis for understanding atomic and molecular structure as well as spectroscopic methods. This leads to a discussion of chemical kinetics and molecular reaction dynamics in the gas phase and in solution. Computational chemistry methods are used to illustrate chemical concepts, to interpret experimental data, and to extend hypotheses. Applications of these principles are chosen from contemporary research fields, including polymer chemistry, photochemistry, atmospheric chemistry, and solid and liquid state chemistry. Quantitative laboratory experiments and consultation with the scientific literature provide the background necessary for carrying out an independent theoretical or experimental project.

Class Format: lecture, three hours per week; laboratory, four hours per week
Requirements/Evaluation: evaluation is based on class participation, problem sets, exams, laboratory work, and an independent project.
Extra Info: may not be taken on a pass/fail basis
Prerequisites: CHEM 155 or 256
Enrollment Limit: none
Expected Class Size: 12
Distributions: (D3)

Fall 2018
LEC Section: 01 MWF 11:00 am - 12:15 pm  Enrique Peacock-López
LAB Section: 02  T 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm  Enrique Peacock-López
This course provides the student an understanding of the applicability of current laboratory instrumentation both to the elucidation of fundamental chemical phenomena and to the measurement of certain atomic and molecular parameters. Student will gain knowledge and understanding of the theory and practical use of a variety of instrumental techniques; including, but not limited to, chromatography, mass spectrometry, thermal methods, electroanalytical techniques, atomic and molecular absorption and emission spectroscopy, X-ray diffraction, and optical and electron microscopies, with examples drawn from the current literature. Analytical chemical and instrumental techniques will be developed in the lecture and extensively applied within the laboratory. These skills are useful in a wide variety of scientific areas. Through exploration of primary literature and review articles we will discuss recent developments in instrumental methods and advances in the approaches used to address modern analytical questions.

Class Format: lecture, three hours per week; laboratory, four hours per week

Requirements/Evaluation: evaluation is based on class participation, 2 exams, problem sets, oral presentations and discussions of selected topics, laboratory work, and an independent project

Extra Info: may not be taken on a pass/fail basis; not available for the fifth course option

Prerequisites: CHEM 155 or 256 and 251/255; may be taken concurrently with CHEM 256 with permission of instructor

Enrollment Limit: 12

Expected Class Size: 12

Distributions: (D3)

Attributes: BIMO Interdepartmental Electives; ENVI Natural World Electives; EVST Methods Courses; MTSC Courses

Spring 2019

LEC Section: 01    TR 8:30 am - 9:45 am    Lee Y. Park
LAB Section: 02    M 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm    Anthony J. Carrasquillo
LAB Section: 03    T 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm    Nathan Cook

CHEM 366 (S)  Thermodynamics and Statistical Mechanics

The thermodynamic laws provide us with our most powerful and general scientific principles for predicting the direction of spontaneous change in physical, chemical, and biological systems. This course develops the concepts of energy, entropy, free energy, temperature, heat, work, and chemical potential within the framework of classical and statistical thermodynamics. The principles developed are applied to a variety of problems: chemical reactions, phase changes, energy technology, industrial processes, and environmental science. Laboratory experiments provide quantitative and practical demonstrations of the theory of real and ideal systems studied in class.

Class Format: lecture, three hours per week; laboratory, four hours per week; discussion, one hour per week

Requirements/Evaluation: evaluation is based on class participation, oral presentations, problem sets, laboratory work, and an independent project.

Extra Info: may not be taken on a pass/fail basis

Prerequisites: CHEM 155 or 256, and basic knowledge of applied integral and differential calculus

Enrollment Limit: none

Expected Class Size: 12

Distributions: (D3)

Attributes: BIMO Interdepartmental Electives;

Spring 2019

LEC Section: 01    MWF 11:00 am - 12:15 pm    Enrique Peacock-López
LAB Section: 02    T 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm    Enrique Peacock-López

CHEM 367 (S)  Biophysical Chemistry

This course is designed to provide a working knowledge of basic physical chemistry to students primarily interested in the biochemical, biological, or
medical professions. Topics of physical chemistry are presented from the viewpoint of their application to biochemical problems. Three major areas of biophysical chemistry are discussed: 1) the conformation of biological macromolecules and the forces that stabilize them; 2) techniques for the study of biological structure and function including spectroscopic, hydrodynamic, electrophoretic, and chromatographic; 3) the behavior of biological macromolecules including ligand interaction and conformational transitions.

**Class Format:** lecture, three hours per week; laboratory, four hours per week

**Requirements/Evaluation:** evaluation is based on problem sets and/or quizzes, laboratory work, hour tests, and a final exam

**Extra Info:** may not be taken on a pass/fail basis; not available for the fifth course option

**Prerequisites:** CHEM 155 or 256 and 251/255, and MATH 140 or equivalent

**Enrollment Limit:** 8 per lab

**Enrollment Preferences:** junior and senior Chemistry majors

**Expected Class Size:** 16

**Distributions:** (D3)

**Attributes:** BIMO Interdepartmental Electives;

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**CHEM 368 (S) Computational Chemistry and Molecular Spectroscopy (QFR)**

This course provides an introduction to the principles of computational quantum mechanics and their application to problems of chemical interest such as chemical bonding, chemical reactivity, and molecular spectroscopy. Emphasis is placed upon modern electronic structure calculations, their fundamentals, practical considerations, interpretation, and applications to current research questions. Under guidance in the laboratory session and through independent work, students will use computational methods to explore assigned weekly research problems. The research results will be presented to and discussed with the tutorial partner at the end of each week.

**Class Format:** tutorial, meeting time to be determined

**Requirements/Evaluation:** evaluation is based on tutorial participation, presentations, and submitted papers

**Extra Info:** may not be taken on a pass/fail basis; not available for the fifth course option

**Prerequisites:** CHEM 361 or equivalent background in Physics

**Enrollment Limit:** 10

**Expected Class Size:** 10

**Distributions:** (D3) (QFR)

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**CHEM 393 (F) Junior Research and Thesis: Chemistry**

Chemistry junior research and thesis.

**Class Format:** independent study

**Extra Info:** may not be taken on a pass/fail basis

**Distributions:** (D3)
CHEM 394 (S)  Junior Research and Thesis: Chemistry
Chemistry junior research and thesis.

Class Format: independent study
Extra Info: may not be taken on a pass/fail basis
Distributions: (D3)

Spring 2019
HON Section: 01    F 1:10 pm - 2:25 pm     Lee Y. Park

CHEM 397 (F)  Independent Study, for Juniors: Chemistry
Chemistry independent study for juniors.

Class Format: independent study
Extra Info: may not be taken on a pass/fail basis
Distributions: (D3)

Fall 2018
IND Section: 01    TBA     Lee Y. Park

CHEM 398 (S)  Independent Study, for Juniors: Chemistry
Chemistry independent study for juniors.

Class Format: independent study
Extra Info: may not be taken on a pass/fail basis
Distributions: (D3)

Spring 2019
IND Section: 01    TBA     Lee Y. Park

CHEM 493 (F)  Senior Research and Thesis
Individual research projects in a field of interest to the student are carried out under the direction of a faculty member and culminate in a thesis.
Students in this program are strongly encouraged to keep 1:10 p.m. to 2:25 p.m. on Friday free for departmental colloquia.

Class Format: independent study
Requirements/Evaluation: this is part of a full-year thesis (493-494)
Extra Info: may not be taken on a pass/fail basis; not available for the fifth course option
Distributions: (D3)

Fall 2018
HON Section: 01    F 1:10 pm - 2:25 pm     Amy Gehring

CHEM 494 (S)  Senior Research and Thesis
Individual research projects in a field of interest to the student are carried out under the direction of a faculty member and culminate in a thesis.
Students in this program are strongly encouraged to keep 1:10 p.m. to 2:25 p.m. on Friday free for departmental colloquia.

Class Format: independent study
Requirements/Evaluation: this is part of a full-year thesis (493-494)
**Extra Info:** may not be taken on a pass/fail basis; not available for the fifth course option

**Distributions:** (D3)

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**Spring 2019**

HON Section: 01    F 1:10 pm - 2:25 pm    Lee Y. Park

**CHEM 497 (F) Independent Study, for Seniors: Chemistry**

Chemistry independent study for seniors. Individual research projects in a field of interest to the student are carried out under the direction of a faculty member.

**Class Format:** independent study

**Distributions:** (D3)

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**Fall 2018**

IND Section: 01    TBA    Lee Y. Park

**CHEM 498 (S) Independent Study, for Seniors: Chemistry**

Chemistry independent study for seniors. Individual research projects in a field of interest to the student are carried out under the direction of a faculty member.

**Class Format:** independent study

**Distributions:** (D3)

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**Spring 2019**

IND Section: 01    TBA    Lee Y. Park