

CHEMISTRY, BA

Banner Code: SC-BA-CHEM

Academic Advising

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This program, when coordinated with the necessary courses in education, meets requirements for teacher licensure. It also meets requirements for entrance to medical and other professional schools.

Teacher Licensure

Students who wish to become teachers and plan to seek teacher licensure should consider the following options:

- Chemistry, BA or BS/Curriculum and Instruction, Accelerated MEd (Secondary Education Chemistry concentration)
- Curriculum and Instruction Undergraduate Certificate

Interested students should attend an information session early in their studies. For more information, visit the Graduate School of Education's website (<http://gse.gmu.edu>).

Admissions & Policies

Admissions

University-wide admissions policies can be found in the Undergraduate Admissions Policies section of this catalog.

To apply for this program, please complete the George Mason University Admissions Application (<https://www2.gmu.edu/admissions-aid/apply-now>).

Policies

Students must fulfill all Requirements for Bachelor's Degrees, including the Mason Core. As outlined in the Requirements section, students in this bachelor's program must also complete the additional College Requirements for the BA Degree.

CHEM 336 Physical Chemistry Lab I or CHEM 465 Biochemistry Lab will fulfill the writing intensive requirement.

For policies governing all undergraduate programs, see AP.5 Undergraduate Policies.

Termination from the Major

To ensure the academic integrity of the Chemistry and Biochemistry undergraduate major program, students are expected to maintain a satisfactory level of academic performance.

No chemistry, math, or science course that is required for the major may be attempted more than three times. Students who do not successfully complete such a course with a grade of C or better by the third attempt may be terminated from the major.

Students who have been terminated from the chemistry major may not register for a chemistry course without the permission of the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry.

A student may not declare a major in chemistry if the student has previously met the termination criteria for the major at any time, regardless of what the student's major was at the time the courses were taken.

Requirements

Degree Requirements

Total credits: minimum 120

Students should refer to the Admissions & Policies tab for specific policies related to this program.

Students must complete the chemistry program requirements with a minimum GPA of 2.30 and present no more than two courses with a grade of 'D' (1.00) in CHEM coursework at graduation.

BA without Concentration

Students who do not select the optional concentration complete the curriculum requirements listed below.

Chemistry Courses

Code	Title	Credits
CHEM 211	General Chemistry I (Mason Core)	3
CHEM 213	General Chemistry Laboratory I (Mason Core)	1
CHEM 212	General Chemistry II (Mason Core)	3
CHEM 214	General Chemistry Laboratory II (Mason Core)	1
CHEM 313	Organic Chemistry I	3
CHEM 314	Organic Chemistry II	3
CHEM 315	Organic Chemistry Lab I	2
CHEM 318	Organic Chemistry Lab II	2
CHEM 321	Quantitative Chemical Analysis	4
CHEM 331	Physical Chemistry I	3
CHEM 332	Physical Chemistry II	3
CHEM 336	Physical Chemistry Lab I ¹	2
CHEM 337	Physical Chemistry Lab II	2
Select 5 credits of electives in chemistry		5
Total Credits		37

¹ Fulfills the writing intensive requirement.

Mathematics Courses

Code	Title	Credits
MATH 113	Analytic Geometry and Calculus I (Mason Core)	4
MATH 114	Analytic Geometry and Calculus II	4
MATH 213	Analytic Geometry and Calculus III	3
Total Credits		11

Physics Courses

Code	Title	Credits
Select one sequence:		8
PHYS 243 & PHYS 244 & PHYS 245 & PHYS 246	College Physics I (Mason Core) and College Physics Lab (Mason Core) and College Physics II (Mason Core) and College Physics Lab (Mason Core)	
PHYS 160 & PHYS 161 & PHYS 260 & PHYS 261	University Physics I (Mason Core) and University Physics I Laboratory (Mason Core) and University Physics II (Mason Core) and University Physics II Laboratory (Mason Core)	
Total Credits		8

Concentration in Biochemistry (BC)

The concentration in biochemistry is designed for students interested in studying chemistry at its interface with the biological sciences. Those interested in health science careers can obtain an excellent science background through this concentration.

Students majoring in chemistry with a concentration in biochemistry will complete the coursework below:

Chemistry Courses

Code	Title	Credits
CHEM 211	General Chemistry I (Mason Core)	3
CHEM 213	General Chemistry Laboratory I (Mason Core)	1
CHEM 212	General Chemistry II (Mason Core)	3
CHEM 214	General Chemistry Laboratory II (Mason Core)	1
CHEM 313	Organic Chemistry I	3
CHEM 314	Organic Chemistry II	3
CHEM 315	Organic Chemistry Lab I	2
CHEM 318	Organic Chemistry Lab II	2
CHEM 321	Quantitative Chemical Analysis	4
CHEM 331	Physical Chemistry I	3
CHEM 336	Physical Chemistry Lab I ¹	2
CHEM 446	Bioinorganic Chemistry	3
CHEM 463	General Biochemistry I	4
CHEM 464	General Biochemistry II	3
CHEM 465	Biochemistry Lab ¹	2
Total Credits		39

¹ Fulfills the writing intensive requirement.

Mathematics and Statistics Courses

Code	Title	Credits
MATH 113	Analytic Geometry and Calculus I (Mason Core)	4
MATH 114	Analytic Geometry and Calculus II	4
STAT 250	Introductory Statistics I (Mason Core)	3
Total Credits		11

Physics Courses

Code	Title	Credits
PHYS 243	College Physics I (Mason Core)	3
PHYS 244	College Physics Lab (Mason Core)	1
PHYS 245	College Physics II (Mason Core)	3
PHYS 246	College Physics Lab (Mason Core)	1
Total Credits		8

Biology Courses

Code	Title	Credits
BIOL 213	Cell Structure and Function (Mason Core)	4
Total Credits		4

Mason Core and Elective Credits

In order to meet a minimum of 120 credits, this degree requires additional credits (specific credit counts by concentration are shown below), which may be applied toward any remaining Mason Core requirements (outlined below), Requirements for Bachelor's Degrees, College Requirements for the BA Degree (outlined below), and elective courses. Students are strongly encouraged to consult with their advisors to ensure that they fulfill all requirements.

- Without concentration: 64 credits
- BC concentration: 58 credits

Mason Core

Note: Some Mason Core requirements may already be fulfilled by the major requirements listed above. Students are strongly encouraged to consult their advisors to ensure they fulfill all remaining Mason Core requirements.

Code	Title	Credits
Foundation Requirements		
	Written Communication (ENGH 101)	3
	Oral Communication	3
	Quantitative Reasoning	3
	Information Technology and Computing	3
Exploration Requirements		
	Arts	3
	Global Understanding	3
	Literature	3
	Natural Science	7
	Social and Behavioral Sciences	3
	Western Civilization/World History	3
Integration Requirements		
	Written Communications (ENGH 302)	3
	Writing-Intensive ¹	3
	Synthesis/Capstone ²	3
Total Credits		40

¹ Most programs include the writing-intensive course designated for the major as part of the major requirements; this course is therefore not counted towards the total required for Mason Core.

² Minimum 3 credits required.

College Requirements for the BA Degree

In addition to the program requirements and the Mason Core requirements, students pursuing a BA degree must complete the coursework below. Except where expressly prohibited, a course used to fulfill this college-level requirement may also be used simultaneously to satisfy other requirements such as Mason Core requirements, other college-level requirements, or requirements for the major. In some cases, the requirements listed below may be superseded by requirements of the degree program and the Mason Core.

Philosophy or Religious Studies

Code	Title	Credits
Select 3 credits from the following:		
PHIL ¹		3
RELI		

¹ PHIL 323 Classical Western Political Theory and PHIL 324 Modern Western Political Theory may not be used to fulfill this requirement.

Social and Behavioral Sciences

Choose one approved Mason Core: Social and Behavioral Sciences course in addition to the Mason Core-required course for a total of 6 credits. The two courses used to fulfill the combined college-level and university requirements must be from different disciplines.

This requirement may be fulfilled by completing any course in ANTH, CRIM, ECON, GOVT, HIST¹, LING, PSYC, or SOCI, and the following GGS courses:

Code	Title	Credits
Select any course from the disciplines above or select from the following GGS courses:		
GGS 101	Major World Regions (Mason Core)	
GGS 103	Human Geography (Mason Core)	
GGS 110	Introduction to Geoinformation Technologies	
GGS 301	Political Geography	
GGS 303	Geography of Resource Conservation (Mason Core)	
GGS 304	Population Geography (Mason Core)	
GGS 305	Economic Geography	
GGS 306	Urban Geography	
GGS 315	Geography of the United States	
GGS 316	Geography of Latin America	
GGS 320	Geography of Europe	
GGS 325	Geography of North Africa and the Middle East	
GGS 330	Geography of the Soviet Succession States	
GGS 357	Urban Planning	
GGS 380	Geography of Virginia	
Total Credits		3

¹ HIST 100 History of Western Civilization (Mason Core) and HIST 125 Introduction to World History (Mason Core) may not be used to fulfill this requirement.

Natural Science

Choose one credit in addition to the Mason Core: Natural Science requirement for a total of 8 credits. This combined college-level and university requirement must be fulfilled by completing two of any approved Mason Core: Natural Science courses that include a laboratory experience¹.

Code	Title	Credits
Select an additional Mason Core Natural Science course		1

¹ BIOL 124 Human Anatomy and Physiology and BIOL 125 Human Anatomy and Physiology may not be used to fulfill this requirement.

Foreign Language

Intermediate-level proficiency in one foreign language is required¹. This requirement may be fulfilled by completing a course in a foreign language numbered 202, 209, or 210 (or higher-level courses taught in the language).

Code	Title	Credits
Select a foreign language course numbered 202, 209, 210, or higher if a waiver isn't applicable		0-3

¹ Students may be eligible for a waiver of this requirement if they are already proficient in a second language or if they have received a satisfactory score on an approved proficiency test. Additional information on waivers can be found via the college's Office of Academic and Student Affairs (<https://cos.gmu.edu/uaa>).

Non-Western Culture

Choose one approved Non-Western Culture Requirement¹ course in addition to the course used to fulfill the Mason Core: Global Understanding requirement. A course used to fulfill the Mason Core: Global Understanding requirement may not be simultaneously used to satisfy this college-level requirement. However, a course used to fulfill this requirement may be used simultaneously to fulfill any *other* requirements (Mason Core requirements, college-level requirements, or requirements for the major).

Code	Title	Credits
Select 3 credits from approved Non-Western Culture courses if a waiver isn't applicable:		
ANTH 114	Introduction to Cultural Anthropology (Mason Core)	3
ANTH 300	Civilizations	3
ANTH 301	Native North Americans	3
ANTH 302	Peoples and Cultures of Latin America (Mason Core)	3
ANTH 303	Peoples and Cultures of the Andes	3
ANTH 306	Peoples and Cultures of Island Asia (Mason Core)	3
ANTH 307	Ancient Mesoamerica (Mason Core)	3
ANTH 308	Peoples and Cultures of the Middle East (Mason Core)	3
ANTH 309	Peoples and Cultures of India (Mason Core)	3
ANTH 313	Myth, Magic, and Mind (Mason Core)	3
ANTH 314	Zombies	3
ANTH 316	Peoples and Cultures of the Caribbean (Mason Core)	3

ANTH 323	Digging and Dealing in the Dead: Ethics in Archaeology	3	GOVT 341	Chinese Foreign Policy	3
ANTH 330	Peoples and Cultures of Selected Regions: Non-Western	3	GOVT 345	Islam and Politics	3
ANTH 332	Cross-Cultural Perspectives on Globalization (Mason Core)	3	GOVT 433	Political Economy of East Asia	3
ANTH 381	Medical Anthropology	3	HIST 251	Survey of East Asian History (Mason Core)	3
ANTH 383	Cities of the Global South	3	HIST 252	Survey of East Asian History (Mason Core)	3
ANTH 396	Issues in Anthropology: Social Sciences (Mason Core)	3	HIST 261	Survey of African History (Mason Core)	3
ARAB 360	Topics in Arabic Cultural Production	3	HIST 262	Survey of African History (Mason Core)	3
ARAB 420	Survey of Arabic Literature	3	HIST 271	Survey of Latin American History (Mason Core)	3
ARAB 440	Topics in Arabic Religious Thought and Texts (Mason Core)	3	HIST 272	Survey of Latin American History (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 203	Survey of Asian Art (Mason Core)	3	HIST 281	Survey of Middle Eastern Civilization (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 204	Survey of Latin American Art (Mason Core)	3	HIST 282	Survey of Middle Eastern Civilization (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 206	Survey of African Art (Mason Core)	3	HIST 326	Stalinism	3
ARTH 318	Art and Archaeology of Ancient Egypt	3	HIST 327	The Soviet Union and Russia Since World War II	3
ARTH 319	Art and Archaeology of the Ancient Near East (Mason Core)	3	HIST 328	Rise of Russia (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 320	Art of the Islamic World (Mason Core)	3	HIST 329	Modern Russia and the Soviet Union (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 382	Arts of India (Mason Core)	3	HIST 353	History of Traditional China	3
ARTH 383	Arts of Southeast Asia (Mason Core)	3	HIST 354	Modern China	3
ARTH 384	Arts of China (Mason Core)	3	HIST 356	Modern Japan (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 385	Arts of Japan (Mason Core)	3	HIST 357	Postwar Japan (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 386	The Silk Road (Mason Core)	3	HIST 358	Post-1949 China (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 482	RS: Advanced Studies in Asian Art	3	HIST 360	History of South Africa (Mason Core)	3
CHIN 318	Introduction to Classical Chinese (Mason Core)	3	HIST 364	Revolution and Radical Politics in Latin America (Mason Core)	3
CHIN 320	Contemporary Chinese Film	3	HIST 365	Conquest and Colonization in Latin America (Mason Core)	3
CHIN 325	Major Chinese Writers (Mason Core)	3	HIST 366	Comparative Slavery	3
DANC 118	World Dance (Mason Core)	3	HIST 367	History, Fiction, and Film in Latin America	3
ECON 361	Economic Development of Latin America (Mason Core)	3	HIST 387	Topics in Global History (Mason Core)	3-6
ECON 362	African Economic Development (Mason Core)	3	HIST 426	The Russian Revolution	3
FREN 451	Topics in Sub-Saharan Francophone Literature and Culture	3	HIST 460	Modern Iran (Mason Core)	3
FREN 454	Topics in Caribbean Francophone Literature and Culture	3	HIST 461	Arab-Israeli Conflict	3
GGG 101	Major World Regions (Mason Core)	3	HIST 462	Women in Islamic Society (Mason Core)	3
GGG 316	Geography of Latin America	3	HIST 465	The Middle East in the 20th Century	3
GGG 325	Geography of North Africa and the Middle East	3	JAPA 310	Japanese Culture in a Global World (Mason Core)	3
GGG 330	Geography of the Soviet Succession States	3	JAPA 340	Topics in Japanese Literature (Mason Core)	3
GGG 399	Select Topics in GGS	3	KORE 320	Korean Popular Culture in a Global World	3
GOVT 328	Global Political Theory	3	MUSI 103	Musics of the World (Mason Core)	3
GOVT 332	Government and Politics of the Middle East and North Africa	3	RELI 211	Religions of the West (Mason Core)	3
GOVT 333	Government and Politics of Asia	3	RELI 212	Religions of Asia (Mason Core)	3
GOVT 338	Government and Politics of Russia	3	RELI 240	Death and the Afterlife in World Religions	3
GOVT 340	Central Asian Politics	3	RELI 272	Islam	3
			RELI 313	Hinduism (Mason Core)	3
			RELI 314	Chinese Philosophies and Religious Traditions	3

RELI 315	Buddhism (Mason Core)	3
RELI 337	Mysticism: East and West	3
RELI 365	Muhammad: Life and Legacy	3
RELI 374	Islamic Thought (Mason Core)	3
RELI 375	Qur'an and Hadith	3
RELI 379	Islamic Law, Society, and Ethics	3
RELI 387	Islam, Democracy, and Human Rights	3
RELI 490	Comparative Study of Religions (Mason Core)	3
RUSS 353	Russian Civilization (Mason Core)	3
RUSS 354	Contemporary Post-Soviet Life (Mason Core)	3

¹ Students who can document attendance at a native school in a non-western country for at least four years may request a waiver from this requirement through the CHSS Undergraduate Academic Affairs Office (<http://chssundergrad.gmu.edu>).

Honors

Honors in the Major

Chemistry majors who have completed prerequisites for CHEM 455 Honors Research in Chemistry and CHEM 456 Honors Research in Chemistry and have maintained an overall GPA of at least 3.00 in mathematics and science courses are eligible to enter the departmental honors program. To graduate with honors in chemistry, a student is required to maintain a minimum GPA of 3.00 in mathematics and science courses and successfully complete the two semesters of CHEM 455 Honors Research in Chemistry and CHEM 456 Honors Research in Chemistry with a minimum GPA of 3.50.

In order to apply for Chemistry Honors, please complete the application (<https://cos.gmu.edu/chemistry/wp-content/uploads/sites/7/2015/08/form-honors-program-application-2016.pdf>) and submit it to the undergraduate coordinator.

Accelerated Master's

Chemistry, BA or BS/Curriculum and Instruction, Accelerated MEd (Secondary Education Chemistry concentration)

Overview

Highly-qualified undergraduates may be admitted to the bachelor's/accelerated master's option and obtain a BA or BS in Chemistry (degree without concentration) and an MEd in Curriculum and Instruction (concentration in secondary education chemistry) in an accelerated time frame after completion of 149 credits. See AP.6.7 Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Degree for policies related to this program.

This accelerated option is offered jointly by the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry and the Graduate School of Education.

Students in an accelerated degree program must fulfill all university requirements for the master's degree. For policies governing all graduate degrees, see AP.6 Graduate Policies.

Application Requirements

Applicants to all graduate programs at George Mason University must meet the admission standards and application requirements for graduate study as specified in Graduate Admissions Policies. For information specific to this accelerated master's program, see Application Requirements and Deadlines (<https://cehd.gmu.edu/bachelors-accelerated-masters-program>).

Accelerated Option Requirements

Students complete the following courses in their senior year:

Senior			
Fall Semester	Credits	Spring Semester	Credits
EDCI 573	3	EDCI 673	3
EDUC 672	3	EDRD 619	3
		6	6

Total Credits 12

While undergraduate students, accelerated master's students are able to apply two of the courses listed above to both the bachelor's and master's degrees. These courses are considered advanced standing for the MEd. A minimum grade of B must be earned to be eligible to count as advanced standing. The other two courses are taken as reserve graduate credit and do not apply to the undergraduate degree. Early in their final undergraduate semester, students must submit the Bachelor's/ Accelerated Master's Transition Form to the CEHD Admissions Office and specify which of the four courses are to be designated as advanced standing and reserve graduate credit.