Forensic Science Option

Bachelor of Arts (BA)

Chemistry is the branch of natural science that deals with the properties and classification of matter, the changes that matter undergoes, and the energy associated with these changes. Research by chemists increases our knowledge about chemicals and their roles in the natural world, and has led to the discovery and development of new and improved products and advances in medicine, agriculture, food processing and other fields. If you are interested in a rewarding career that provides financial security, promotes self-respect and gives you the opportunity to work on stimulating and breakthrough projects, then a career in chemistry may be right for you.

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

**Chemistry students will...**

- Gain a rigorous foundation in chemistry, science, math and forensic sciences in the context of a broad university education.
- Interact closely with experienced faculty in and out of the classroom who are recognized for their writing, training, professional affiliations, and expertise.
- Study in the state-of-the-art, first-rate learning environment provided by the newly renovated Magill Hall of Science, including dedicated forensic science laboratories.
- Have opportunities to pursue research and scholarship that develop independent thinking and problem solving.
- Connect with a network of forensic science alumni and gain opportunities for mentoring and internships.

**Career Planning**

Career preparation is part of the mission of Southeast. In fact, more than 90% of Southeast students participate in internships, clinical opportunities, student teaching, research assistantships, and study abroad. Approximately 35-40% of chemistry graduates pursue graduate or professional programs of study immediately upon graduation. Employment opportunities for chemists exist in a variety of fields, such as biotechnology, chemical manufacturing, environmental monitoring and compliance, industrial hygiene, materials science, pharmaceutical manufacturing, product development, quality control, sales (pharmaceuticals, chemicals, instruments), and technical management.

Professional career counselors are available for all students. The Office of Career Services in Academic Hall 057 can provide students with professional career counseling, resume critiques, practice interviews, job search strategies, career events, networking opportunities, and more.

| Demonstrated Career Proficiency is a Requirement of all Southeast Students |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| CL001/CL002 | First Semester |
| Complete the FOCUS2 assessment and develop a Career Action Plan. |
| CL003 | Junior Year |
| Students gain information about career planning and job searching resources. |
| CL004 | Senior Year |
| Students demonstrate advanced proficiency by identifying a position in their field, developing a cover letter, and tailoring a resume for the position. Materials are critiqued to ensure preparedness for a successful job search. |

**Internship Opportunities, Employment Opportunities, Graduate Schools and Programs of Recent Graduates**

- Arkansas State Crime Laboratory
- Illinois State Police Forensic Sciences Command
- Missouri State Highway Patrol Crime Laboratory Division
- Saint Louis Metropolitan Police Department
- US Army Criminal Investigation Laboratory
- US Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives
- United States Drug Enforcement Administration
- Numerous state and local forensic laboratories nationwide
- Biotyowa
- Buzzi Unicem USA
- Eli Lilly
- Exxon Mobil
- Monsanto
- Pharmacia (currently part of Pfizer)
- PPG Industries
- Proctor and Gamble
- Sigma-Aldrich
- Numerous additional chemical companies
- John Hopkins University
- Purdue University
- University of Illinois (School of Medicine, Graduate School)
- University of Notre Dame
- University of Wisconsin – Madison
- Washington University
- Numerous additional top-tier chemistry graduate and professional schools
This is a guide based on the 2015-2016 Undergraduate Bulletin and is subject to change. The time it takes to earn a degree will vary based on several factors such as dual enrollment, remediation, and summer enrollment. Students will meet with an academic advisor each semester and use DegreeWorks to monitor their individual progress.

**CURRICULUM CHECKLIST**

**Chemistry Major: Forensic Science Option – 50-51 Hours**

- CH185 General Chemistry (5) (Physical Systems)
- CH186 Foundations of Inorganic Chemistry (3)
- CH187 Inorganic Chemistry and Qualitative Analysis Laboratory (2)
- CH271 Foundations of Analytical Chemistry (5)
- CH306 Survey of Physical Chemistry (3)
- CH313 Physical Chemistry Laboratory (3)
- CH341 Foundations of Organic Chemistry (4)
- CH402 Organic Chemistry Laboratory I (1)
- CH408 Professional Presentation in Chemistry (1)
- CH531 Foundations of Biochemistry (3)

**Forensic Science Option**

- CH420 Forensic Chemistry (4)
- CJ100 Introduction to Criminal Justice (3)
- CJ350 Criminalistics (3)
- FS550 Crime Laboratory I: Microscopy (2)
- FS552 Crime Laboratory II: Blood and Fluids (2)

Choose one of the following courses:

- CH575 Chemical Instrumentation (4)
- EV460 Introduction to Toxicology (3)

**Additional Requirements – 13 Hours Required**

- MA139 Applied Calculus (3) (Logical Systems)
- PH120/020 Introductory Physics I (5)
- PH121/021 Introductory Physics II (5)

Note: Completion of an experiential learning project (undergraduate research or internship) in the major is required. The departmental advisor should be consulted for information about this requirement.

**University Studies Requirements (not already listed above):**

- UI100 First Year Seminar, EN100 English Composition, Artistic Expression, Written Expression, Oral Expression, Literary Expression, Behavioral Systems, Living Systems, Development of a Major Civilization, Economic Systems, Political Systems, Social Systems, and one IU/UI3XX*

*Note: Two IU/UI3XX courses are required if CH531 Foundations of Biochemistry is taken rather than UI331 Foundations of Biochemistry.

**Degree requirements for all students:** a minimum of 120 credit hours, completion of University Studies program, career proficiencies (CL001-004), Writing Proficiency Exam (WP003), and completion of the Measure of Academic Proficiency and Progress (MAPP) at the freshman and senior levels.

A minimum 2.0 GPA in the major and overall are required to graduate with a BA in Chemistry degree.

Refer to the Undergraduate Bulletin or DegreeWorks for additional graduation requirements (i.e. minimum GPA and coursework) for your program of study.