



WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

Chemistry

Department of Chemistry, College of Arts & Sciences

Major Program

Chemistry is the science of the composition, structure, properties, and reactions of matter, especially of atomic and molecular systems. It is the basis of the technology for large-scale production of chemicals and chemical materials that are vital to modern society. The study of chemistry helps people understand the physical world and its workings.

The department offers a major in Chemistry, with students taking courses in organic chemistry, inorganic chemistry, analytical chemistry, physical chemistry, and biochemistry. Students in their junior or senior years are encouraged to take research classes in their area of interest, the results of which are usually presented at scientific meetings. Many results are also published in peer-reviewed journals.

The Department of Chemistry is certified by the American Chemical Society in the areas of chemistry and biochemistry. The ACS, with over 120,000 members, is the largest scientific society in the country. In addition to certification of undergraduate programs, it publishes many primary chemical journals such as *Chemical Abstracts*. Of the country's 2,000 undergraduate chemistry programs, fewer than 500 meet ACS certification requirements.

The department also offers minors in Chemistry, Forensic Science, and Forensic Chemistry, and two pre-professional programs in Pre-Pharmacy and Pre-Chemical Engineering.

Faculty

Courses in the department are taught by faculty holding doctoral degrees from distinguished universities around the world such as the University of Mysore (India), Kansas State University, Texas A&M University, Texas Tech University, Lucknow University (India), University of Victoria (Canada), and University of Loyola. All are dedicated educators, skilled in fostering active student participation. They are also active researchers and have to their credit many research publications and presentations in the areas of their specialty.

Scholarships

The department offers several scholarships for Chemistry majors. Four are named for distinguished faculty in the department—the Norbert Goeckner Scholarship is awarded annually to a Chemistry major (undergraduate or graduate), with preference given to a Burmese student (if there is no eligible Burmese student, the award will be open to all Chemistry majors); the Dr. and Mrs. R. L. Hardin Scholarship is awarded to a junior Chemistry major; the F. H. Currens Award is given to an outstanding senior Chemistry major; and the Ben Hughes Scholarship is awarded to a student who is a Chemistry education major. The Department of Chemistry also awards four Maurice Peterson scholarships and an Incoming Freshman Award to an entering freshman Chemistry major, and they select a department scholar from outstanding seniors in the department. Detailed information on scholarships is available from the department, (309) 298-1538; Western's Scholarship office, (309) 298-2001; or on the Web at wiu.edu/Scholarship or wiu.edu/Chemistry. Visit the Department of Chemistry webpage at wiu.edu/Chemistry for full details on scholarships and awards.

HIGHER VALUES IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Honors in Chemistry

To be eligible for the Centennial Honors College, entering freshmen must have an ACT composite score of at least 28 OR have a 26 or 27 composite ACT and be in the top 15% of their graduating class OR have an ACT composite score of at least 24 and be in the top 10% of their high school graduating class. Transfer students with at least 12 semester hours and up to 59 semester hours of undergraduate courses are admitted with a grade point average of at least 3.3 OR 3.4 for 60 semester hours or more. To find out more, visit wiu.edu/Honors.

General honors seminars in the humanities, sciences, and social sciences provide students with opportunities to explore key academic issues with distinguished faculty members. In the Chemistry department, honors students take courses for honors credits and, as seniors, prepare an honors thesis under the direction of a department faculty member.

Student Activities

For students interested in chemistry, the department offers the Chemistry Club, an association affiliated with the American Chemical Society.

Special Opportunities

The department offers small classes with accessible faculty and personalized advising in Currens Hall. The department has many research laboratories as well as a Physical Sciences Library that subscribes to more than 60 journals and online literature searching through the Chemical Abstract Service. Undergraduates have access to the department's state-of-the-art equipment and facilities, which are augmented by the existence of a graduate program. The modern instrumentation available for teaching and research includes FPLC, HPLC, FT-NMR, FT-IR, UV-Vis, and GC-MS Spectrometer; capillary electrophoresis; and a high-speed centrifuge.

Leslie F. Malpass Library

The library and its five branches house more than one million cataloged volumes, 3,300 current journal subscriptions, and 25 foreign and domestic newspapers. In addition, the library provides computer access to resources worldwide, including 800 other Illinois libraries with more than 22 million volumes. When necessary, the interlibrary loan program can have materials in students' hands within a day or two.

After College

Our modern world offers many and varied opportunities for professional chemists. Recent graduates have chosen careers in industry, education, medicine, crime laboratories, hospitals, and environmental protection laboratories. In our changing world, one needs a career providing stable employment. Chemists have historically had unemployment rates well below the rates of the general population.

For More Information

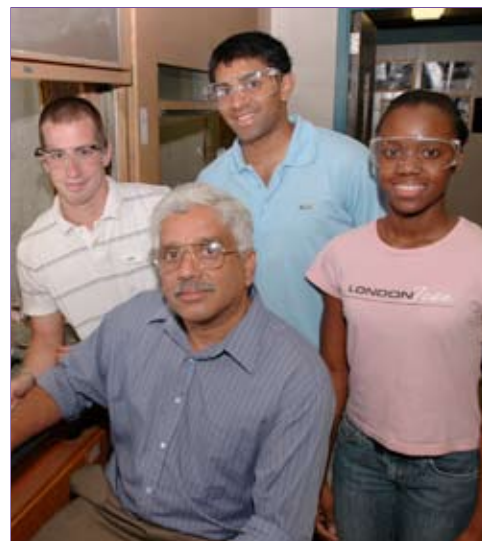
The department welcomes visitors. Call the Department of Chemistry at (309) 298-1538 or e-mail the adviser: JL-Sandrik@wiu.edu. You can also learn more about the department by visiting wiu.edu/chemistry.

For Your General Outlook

Required courses include Inorganic Chemistry I, II & III (12 SH); Organic Chemistry I & II (9 SH); Analytical Techniques (3 SH); Analytical Chemistry (5 SH); Physical Chemistry (8 SH); Senior Project Laboratory (3 SH); Calculus I, II & III (12 SH); Physics (8 to 10 SH); an approved minor (16 to 20 SH); and Computer Science (3 SH).

Campus Visits

The Admissions Reception Center (Sherman Hall 115) is open most weekdays from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM when the University is in session. Group information sessions are available at 10:00 AM and 1:00 PM, and campus tours are conducted at 11:00 AM and 2:00 PM daily. Individual appointments with an admissions counselor, advisers/faculty, or a financial aid adviser may be arranged during the week. The Admissions Reception Center is open from 9:30 AM to 1:00 PM most Saturdays when the University is in session. A group information session is available at 10:00 AM, and a campus tour is conducted at 11:00 AM. An individual appointment with an admissions counselor may be arranged. You may schedule your visit or tour online at admissions.wiu.edu by selecting "Visit Campus." You may also schedule a visit, tour, or individual appointment by calling toll free (877) PICKWIU [742-5948] or (309) 298-3157, or by e-mailing admissions@wiu.edu.



wiu.edu/chemistry

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