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

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

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

The Thesis Plan will include significant portions of research work to be carried out by the students under the guidance of Chemistry faculty mentors. This work will culminate in the completion of a master’s thesis in the last semester of the program. The thesis should demonstrate the student’s mastery of the basic areas of chemistry as well as the completion of a significant research project. The Applied Chemistry Plan will require an internship whereby the student will spend a minimum of one semester at a cooperating industrial or government laboratory.

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

Career Opportunities
There are varieties of opportunities available, including jobs in academia and industry as well as opportunities in pursuing doctorate studies at various institutions nationwide.
Students must complete a minimum of 123 sh of credits to meet the BS degree requirements, including the following:

**University General Education Requirements** ………55 sh

**Core Courses** .......................................................... 49 sh

Chem 201*, 202*, 331, 332, 341, 401, 416, 421, 442, 451, 452, 491; Bot 200*; Zool 200*

**Directed Electives** ................................................... 7 sh

Either Chem 370 or Chem 374 and either Chem 485 or Chem 490

**Other Requirements:** .................................................. 28-31 sh

A. Math 133*, 134* (Calculus I & II)
B. Phys 211*, 212* (University Physics I & II), or Phys 124, 125 (General Physics I & II)
C. CS 211 and 212 or higher
D. LEJA 101 (Survey of Criminal Justice) and LEJA 242 (Survey of Criminal Investigation) or LEJA 303 (Administration in Criminal Justice)
E. Either Anth 405 (Forensic Anthropology), Biol 330 (Cell and Molecular Biology), Geol 110* (Geology), or Micr 200 (Microbiology)

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

**Thesis Plan**

Chem 580 seminar ........................................................... 2 sh
Chem 600 research........................................................... 12 sh
Chem 601 thesis ............................................................. 3 sh
Directed electives (includes up to 9 sh of bridge courses) … 15 sh
**Total program** .......................................................... 32 sh

**Applied Chemistry Plan**

Chem 580 seminar ........................................................... 2 sh
Chem 590 internship ....................................................... 10 sh
Chem 591 internship report ............................................. 2 sh
Electives in cognate area ............................................... 3 sh
Directed electives (includes up to 9 sh of bridge courses) … 15 sh
**Total program** .......................................................... 32 sh

Up to 9 sh of the following bridge undergraduate/graduate courses can be counted toward the 32 sh requirement:


**Contact Information**

For admissions process and general program information, contact the School of Graduate Studies, Western Illinois University, 1 University Circle, Macomb, IL 61455, (309) 298-1806, (877) WIU GRAD toll-free, Grad-Office@wiu.edu, wiu.edu/grad.

For specific program questions, contact Dr. Rose McConnell, Chair, Department of Chemistry, Western Illinois University, 1 University Circle, Macomb, IL 61455, (309) 298-1538, chemistry@wiu.edu, wiu.edu/chemistry.