Program Overview
The department of chemistry at Saint Louis University is committed to education and research in chemical sciences. We offer an undergraduate curriculum with both B.S. and B.A. degrees in chemistry. These programs provide excellent preparation for students seeking employment in industry (chemical, pharmaceutical, agriculture, etc.) or the government (Department of Defense labs, regulatory agencies, law enforcement) as well as for those wishing to continue their studies in professional school (medical, dental, veterinary, law, etc.) and graduate school.

The department of chemistry places a great emphasis on undergraduate research. Thus, B.A. and B.S. majors have ample opportunity to pursue research projects under the close mentorship of a full-time faculty member. Students use a variety of specialized equipment and computers in their laboratories and in their research. Students in upper-level chemistry courses enjoy small classes and personalized attention. The department’s Bachelor of Science degree in chemistry has been certified by the American Chemical Society. The department has received continuous certification since 1946.

The Bachelor of Arts option is ideal for students in the pre-professional health studies or pre-law programs or those interested in obtaining a double major or certificate program in business or other areas.

The Bachelor of Science option is generally the degree desired for employment by most chemical companies. It places heavy emphasis on course and laboratory work, as well as research. Students interested in pursuing graduate studies in chemistry or biochemistry should consider this degree option.

About the Faculty
The faculty of the department of chemistry all hold doctoral degrees and are strongly committed to undergraduate participation in their research programs. Chemistry research programs span a range of topics including bioanalytical chemistry, biochemistry, nanomaterials, photochemistry, theory and computational chemistry, and chemical synthesis.

Curriculum
Bachelor of Arts
- First year: General Chemistry I and II, Calculus I and II
- Second year: Organic Chemistry I and II, Analytical Chemistry I, Engineering Physics I and II
- Third year: Physical Chemistry I and II
- Fourth year: Inorganic Chemistry, chemistry elective, senior residency

Bachelor of Science
- First year: General Chemistry I and II, Calculus I and II
- Second year: Organic Chemistry I and II, Analytical Chemistry I, Engineering Physics I and II
- Third year: Physical Chemistry I and II, Biochemistry, physical chemistry lab, Organic Spectroscopy, Chemistry Literature, undergraduate research
- Fourth year: Inorganic Chemistry, Analytical Chemistry II and III, inorganic chemistry lab, undergraduate research, Mathematical Techniques in Chemistry, senior residency
Admission Requirements

Freshman: All applications are thoroughly and carefully reviewed. Solid academic performance in college preparatory course work is a primary criterion in reviewing a freshman applicant’s file. College admission test scores (ACT or SAT) are used as an additional indicator of the student’s ability to meet the University’s academic requirements and to qualify the student for certain University scholarship programs. To be considered for admission to any Saint Louis University undergraduate program, the applicant must be approaching graduation from an accredited high school or have an acceptable score on the General Education Development (GED) test.

Transfer: Applicants must be a graduate of an accredited high school or have an acceptable score on the GED. An official high school transcript and official test scores are required only of those students who have attempted fewer than 24 transferable semester hours (or 30 quarter hours) of college credit. Those having completed 24 hours or more of college credit need only submit a transcript from previously attended college(s). In reviewing a transfer applicant’s file, the office of admission holistically examines the student’s academic performance in college-level coursework as an indicator of the student’s ability to meet the academic rigors of Saint Louis University.

Internships and Careers

Selected undergraduate students can apply to work with faculty in undergraduate laboratories as laboratory assistants. Lab assistants receive a stipend. Internships in the St. Louis area are also available.

Career options in chemistry include:

+ Education
+ Chemical research and development in industry or government laboratories
+ Pharmaceutical research and drug development
+ Environmental research
+ Management and administration in the chemical industry
+ Chemical and pharmaceutical sales

Other graduates continue through law school and specialize in patent law or environmental law. The public health sector is also a common area for chemists to work.

Scholarships and Financial Aid

There are two principal ways to help finance a Saint Louis University education:

+ Scholarships: awarded based on academic achievement, service, leadership and financial need.
+ Financial Aid: provided in the form of grants and loans, some of which require repayment.

For priority consideration for merit-based scholarships, applicants should apply for admission by Dec. 1 and complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by March 1.

For information on other scholarships and financial aid, visit the student financial services office online at finaid.slu.edu.

Contact

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Graduate Programs

+ Master of Science (M.S.) in chemistry
+ Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in chemistry

For a full listing of graduate programs, visit graduate.slu.edu.

Learn More For course listings and more information about our faculty, visit slu.edu/x15726.xml.