BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN CHEMISTRY

Why study chemistry?
Because understanding the atomic and molecular nature of matter informs us about ourselves and our universe, and creating and finding applications for new and modified forms of matter helps to conserve and enhance our world.

Undergraduate Admission

Admission to KU
All students applying for admission must send high school and college transcripts to the Office of Admissions. Unless they are college transfer students with at least 24 hours of credit, prospective students must send ACT or SAT scores to the Office of Admissions. Prospective first-year students should be aware that KU has qualified admission requirements that all new first-year students must meet to be admitted. Consult the Office of Admissions (http://admissions.ku.edu) for application deadlines and specific admission requirements.

Visit the Office of International Student and Scholar Services (http://www.iss.ku.edu) for information about international admissions.

Students considering transferring to KU may see how their college-level course work will transfer on the Office of Admissions (http://credittransfer.ku.edu) website.

Admission to the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Admission to the College is a different process from admission to a major field. Some CLAS departments have admission requirements. See individual department/program sections for departmental admission requirements.

Chemistry Programs
The B.S. degree prepares students for graduate school and professional careers. The B.A. degree is for the student who wants to understand the fundamental principles of chemistry and to study a number of other fields. Both are based on a high school background that includes at least 1 1/2 years of algebra and 1 year of geometry. High school courses in chemistry and physics are desirable but are not required. Many chemistry majors are preparing for medical school or for graduate study in chemistry and related fields. For graduate school, the common body of knowledge in the B.A. program is the minimum prerequisite. For premedical students, much of the knowledge will be important in their careers. Even more important, however, is the training in logical thinking, drawing conclusions from experimental observations, and digesting and understanding scientific information.

First- and Second-Year Preparation
Because study in chemistry requires preparation in mathematics and physics as well as a structured series of courses in chemistry, students should begin meeting major requirements in the first year. Students planning to major in chemistry should consult a chemistry department major advisor during their first semester to develop a 4-year plan for degree completion. It is particularly important to take CHEM 170 (or CHEM 130 or CHEM 190) and CHEM 175 (or CHEM 135 or CHEM 195) in the first year and CHEM 201, CHEM 330 (or CHEM 380) and CHEM 331 in the second year. For those seeking a B.S. degree it is also important to complete CHEM 335 (or CHEM 385) and CHEM 336 in the second year as well as their mathematics preparation (MATH 125, 126, 127 and CHEM 250) and physics preparation (PHSX 211 & PHSX 216, and PHSX 212 & PHSX 236) in the first 2 years.

Requirements for the B.S. Degree

General Education Requirements
All students must complete the KU Core.

Chemistry Prerequisite or Co-requisite Knowledge (27-28)
Majors must complete courses as specified in each of the following areas. Majors are advised to take honors courses when eligible. These hours do not contribute to the minimum number of hours required for the major.

Calculus I. Satisfied by one of the following: 4
- MATH 125 Calculus I
- or MATH 141: Calculus I, Honors

Calculus II. Satisfied by one of the following: 4
- MATH 126 Calculus II
- or MATH 142: Calculus II, Honors

Calculus III. Satisfied by one of the following: 4
- MATH 127 Calculus III
- or MATH 143: Calculus III, Honors

Mathematical Methods for the Chemical Sciences. Satisfied by: 3
- CHEM 250 Mathematical Methods for the Chemical Sciences

General Physics I. Satisfied by one of the following: 5
- PHSX 211 General Physics I
- & PHSX 216 and General Physics I Laboratory

General Physics II. Satisfied by one of the following: 4
- PHSX 212 General Physics II
- & PHSX 236 and General Physics II Laboratory

Biochemistry. Satisfied by one of the following: 3-4
- BIOL 600 Introductory Biochemistry, Lectures
- BIOL 636 Biochemistry I

Chemistry Core Knowledge and Skills (47)
Majors must complete courses as indicated in the following areas:

Chemistry for the Chemical Sciences I. Satisfied by one of the following: 5
- CHEM 170 Chemistry for the Chemical Sciences I
- CHEM 130 General Chemistry I
- CHEM 190 Foundations of Chemistry I, Honors

Chemistry for the Chemical Sciences II. Satisfied by one of the following: 5
- CHEM 175 Chemistry for the Chemical Sciences II
- CHEM 135 General Chemistry II
- CHEM 195 Foundations of Chemistry II, Honors

Seminar I. Satisfied by: 0.5
- CHEM 180 Seminar I

Laboratory Safety in the Chemical Sciences. Satisfied by: 1
- CHEM 201 Laboratory Safety in the Chemical Sciences
Organic Chemistry I (Lecture and Lab). Satisfied by: 5
CHEM 330 Organic Chemistry I
or CHEM 380 Organic Chemistry I, Honors
CHEM 331 Organic Chemistry I Laboratory
Organic Chemistry II (Lecture and Lab). Satisfied by: 5
CHEM 335 Organic Chemistry II
or CHEM 381 Organic Chemistry II, Honors
CHEM 336 Organic Chemistry II Laboratory
Physical Chemistry I Satisfied by: 4
CHEM 530 Physical Chemistry I
Physical Chemistry II (Lecture and Lab). Satisfied by: 6
CHEM 535 Physical Chemistry II
& CHEM 537 Physical Chemistry Laboratory
Analytical Chemistry (Lecture and Lab). Satisfied by: 5
CHEM 620 Analytical Chemistry
& CHEM 621 Analytical Chemistry Laboratory
Instrumental Methods of Analysis, Satisfied by: 2
CHEM 635 Instrumental Methods of Analysis
Systematic Inorganic Chemistry. Satisfied by: 3
CHEM 660 Systematic Inorganic Chemistry
Advanced Inorganic Laboratory. Satisfied by: 2
CHEM 661 Advanced Inorganic Laboratory
Seminar II. Satisfied by: 0.5
CHEM 695 Seminar II
Select one of the following: (Fulfills KU Core Goal 6) 3
CHEM 636 Instrumental Methods of Analysis Laboratory
or CHEM 698 Undergraduate Research Problems
or CHEM 699 Undergraduate Honors Research

Major Hours & Major GPA
KU Core Goal 6 is satisfied by either CHEM 636 Instrumental Methods of Analysis Laboratory, or 3 credit hours of CHEM 698 or CHEM 699.
While completing all required courses, majors must also meet each of the following hour and grade-point average minimum standards:

Major Hours
Satisfied by 47 hours of major courses.

Major Hours in Residence
Satisfied by a minimum of 15 hours of KU resident credit in the major.

Major Junior/Senior Hours
Satisfied by a minimum of 35.5 hours from junior/senior courses (300+) in the major.

Major Junior/Senior Graduation GPA
Satisfied by a minimum of a 2.0 KU GPA in junior/senior courses (300+) in the major. GPA calculations include all junior/senior courses in the field of study including F’s and repeated courses. See the Semester/Cumulative GPA Calculator. (http://clas.ku.edu/undergrad/tools/gpa)

Biological Chemistry Option
This option is available to students interested in the biological applications of chemistry. The curriculum is compatible with many prehealth-professions programs and prepares the student for graduate study or career opportunities.

General Education Requirements
All students must complete the KU Core.

Chemistry Prerequisite or Co-requisite Knowledge (24)
Majors must complete courses as specified in each of the following areas. Majors are advised to take honors courses when eligible. These hours do not contribute to the minimum number of hours required for the major.

Calculus I. Satisfied by one of the following: 4
MATH 125 Calculus I
or MATH 144 Calculus I, Honors
Calculus II. Satisfied by one of the following: 4
MATH 126 Calculus II
or MATH 144 Calculus II, Honors
Calculus III. Satisfied by one of the following: 4
MATH 127 Calculus III
or MATH 144 Calculus III, Honors

General Physics I. Satisfied by one of the following: 5
PHSX 211 General Physics I
& PHSX 216 and General Physics I Laboratory
PHSX 213 General Physics I Honors

General Physics II. Satisfied by one of the following: 4
PHSX 212 General Physics II
& PHSX 236 and General Physics II Laboratory
PHSX 214 General Physics II Honors

Chemistry Core Knowledge and Skills (47)
Majors must complete courses as indicated in the following areas.

Chemistry for the Chemical Sciences I. Satisfied by one of the following:
CHEM 170 Chemistry for the Chemical Sciences I
CHEM 130 General Chemistry I
CHEM 190 Foundations of Chemistry I, Honors

Chemistry for the Chemical Sciences II. Satisfied by one of the following:
CHEM 175 Chemistry for the Chemical Sciences II
CHEM 135 General Chemistry II
CHEM 195 Foundations of Chemistry II, Honors
Seminar I. Satisfied by: 0.5
CHEM 180 Seminar I

Laboratory Safety in the Chemical Sciences. Satisfied by: 1
CHEM 201 Laboratory Safety in the Chemical Sciences

Organic Chemistry I (Lecture and Lab). Satisfied by: 5
CHEM 330 Organic Chemistry I
or CHEM 380 Organic Chemistry I, Honors
CHEM 331 Organic Chemistry I Laboratory

Organic Chemistry II (Lecture and Lab). Satisfied by: 5
CHEM 335 Organic Chemistry II
or CHEM 380 Organic Chemistry II, Honors
CHEM 336 Organic Chemistry II Laboratory

Physical Chemistry I Satisfied by: 4
CHEM 530 Physical Chemistry I

Physical Chemistry II (Lecture and Lab). Satisfied by: 6
CHEM 535 & CHEM 537

Instrumental Methods of Analysis Satisfied by:
CHEM 536

Systematic Inorganic Chemistry. Satisfied by:
CHEM 660

Advanced Inorganic Laboratory. Satisfied by:
CHEM 661

Seminar II. Satisfied by:
CHEM 695

Select one of the following: (Fulfills KU Core Goal 6)
CHEM 636

Biological Chemistry Core Knowledge and Skills (16)

Principles of Molecular and Cellular Biology. Satisfied by:
BIOL 150

Biochemistry. Satisfied by:
BIOL 636

Biochemistry Laboratory. Satisfied by:
BIOL 637

Biological Chemistry Required Electives

Majors choosing this option should select 1 elective (3 hours) from the following:

BIOL 350
BIOL 400
BIOL 416

Major Hours & Major GPA

While completing all required courses, majors must also meet each of the following hour and grade-point average minimum standards:

Major Hours
Satisfied by 47 hours of major courses.

Major Hours in Residence
Satisfied by a minimum of 15 hours of KU resident credit in the major.

Major Junior/Senior Hours
Satisfied by a minimum of 35.5 hours from junior/senior courses (300+)
in the major.

Major Junior/Senior Graduation GPA
Satisfied by a minimum of a 2.0 KU GPA in junior/senior courses (300+) in the major. GPA calculations include all junior/senior courses in the field of study including F’s and repeated courses. See the Semester/ Cumulative GPA Calculator (http://clas.ku.edu/undergrad/tools/gpa).

Chemical Physics Option

This option allows students to focus on the theoretical basis of chemistry. Students are prepared for graduate programs or employment.

General Education Requirements

All students must complete the KU Core.

Chemistry Prerequisite or Co-requisite Knowledge (29-30)

Majors must complete courses as specified in each of the following areas. Majors are advised to take honors courses when eligible. These hours do not contribute to the minimum number of hours required for the major.

Calculus I. Satisfied by one of the following:
MATH 125
MATH 145

Calculus II. Satisfied by one of the following:
MATH 126
MATH 146

Calculus III. Satisfied by one of the following:
MATH 127
MATH 147

Differential Equations. Satisfied by one of the following:
MATH 220

Biochemistry. Satisfied by one of the following:
BIOL 600
BIOL 636

Chemistry Core Knowledge and Skills (47)

Majors must complete courses as indicated in the following areas:

Chemistry for the Chemical Sciences I. Satisfied by one of the following:
CHEM 170
CHEM 130
CHEM 190

Chemistry for the Chemical Sciences II. Satisfied by one of the following:
CHEM 175
CHEM 135
CHEM 195

Seminar I. Satisfied by:
CHEM 180

Laboratory Safety in the Chemical Sciences. Satisfied by:
CHEM 201

Organic Chemistry I (Lecture and Lab). Satisfied by:
CHEM 330
CHEM 331

Organic Chemistry II (Lecture and Lab). Satisfied by:
CHEM 332

Biochemistry. Satisfied by one of the following:
BIOL 600
BIOL 636
Bachelor of Science in Chemistry

CHEM 335  Organic Chemistry II
or CHEM 385 Organic Chemistry II, Honors
CHEM 336  Organic Chemistry II Laboratory
Physical Chemistry I Satisfied by: 4
CHEM 530  Physical Chemistry I
Physical Chemistry II (Lecture and Lab). Satisfied by: 6
CHEM 535 & CHEM 537 Physical Chemistry II and Physical Chemistry Laboratory
Analytical Chemistry (Lecture and Lab). Satisfied by: 5
CHEM 620  Analytical Chemistry
& CHEM 621 and Analytical Chemistry Laboratory
Instrumental Methods of Analysis Satisfied by: 2
CHEM 635  Instrumental Methods of Analysis
Systematic Inorganic Chemistry. Satisfied by: 3
CHEM 660  Systematic Inorganic Chemistry
Advanced Inorganic Laboratory. Satisfied by: 2
CHEM 661  Advanced Inorganic Laboratory
Seminar II. Satisfied by: 0.5
CHEM 695  Seminar II
Select one of the following: (Fulfills KU Core Goal 6) 3
CHEM 636  Instrumental Methods of Analysis Laboratory
or CHEM 698 Undergraduate Research Problems
or CHEM 699 Undergraduate Honors Research

Chemical Physics Core Knowledge and Skills (12) 12

Majors must complete 2 courses from each of the following groups:

Group I
PHSX 313  General Physics III
& PHSX 316 and Intermediate Physics Laboratory I (PHSX 313 and PHSX 316 should be taken concurrently)
PHSX 518  Mathematical Physics
PHSX 521  Mechanics I
PHSX 615  Numerical and Computational Methods in Physics
PHSX 623  Physics of Fluids
PHSX 655  Optics
PHSX 681  Concepts in Solids

Group II
PHSX 531  Electricity and Magnetism
PHSX 621  Mechanics II
MATH 646  Complex Variable and Applications
MATH 647  Applied Partial Differential Equations
CHEM 698  Undergraduate Research Problems
CHEM 750  Introduction to Quantum Mechanics

Satisfied by a minimum of 35.5 hours from junior/senior courses (300+) in the major.

Major Junior/Senior Graduation GPA
Satisfied by a minimum of a 2.0 KU GPA in junior/senior courses (300+) in the major. GPA calculations include all junior/senior courses in the field of study including F’s and repeated courses. See the Semester/Cumulative GPA Calculator (http://clas.ku.edu/undergrad/tools/gpa).

Departmental Honors

Undergraduates may apply for admission to the departmental honors program after completion of an analytical, organic, and physical chemistry course but no sooner than the beginning of the junior year. Highly motivated and superior B.A. and B.S. students are admitted to the honors program. Honors in chemistry are awarded to students who have been admitted to the program and who have completed the following requirements with superior performance, including an overall KU GPA 3.25 and a major GPA of 3.5.

1. At least 2 semesters of CHEM 699 (4-8 hours total) resulting in a written thesis.
2. Evaluation and approval of the thesis by a faculty advisory committee.
3. Oral presentation of the thesis results at a special departmental seminar or other approved forum.

For an application form and further information, consult the department office.

Major Hours & Major GPA

While completing all required courses, majors must also meet each of the following hour and grade-point average minimum standards:

Major Hours
Satisfied by 47 hours of major courses.

Major Hours in Residence
Satisfied by a minimum of 15 hours of KU resident credit in the major.

Major Junior/Senior Hours