Western Michigan University Chemistry Curriculum Guide

The WMU Department of Chemistry offers a choice of five majors:

➢ **Chemistry major** - this 35-credit hour major in the College of Arts and Sciences is designed for students interested in graduate studies in chemistry. This major also suits students interested in teaching chemistry at the middle/high school level after completion of a Master of Arts in Teaching: Secondary Education.

➢ **Chemistry major ACS Certified** - this 42-credit hour major is certified by the American Chemical Society and is for students planning to enter the chemical industry, though it may be taken by students planning on graduate school study of chemistry.

➢ **Biochemistry** - this 36-credit hour major is recommended for students interested in careers in health sciences (medicine, dentistry, nutrition, pharmacology, etc.) or a graduate career in biochemistry or molecular biology.

➢ **Business-oriented chemistry major** - this 37-credit hour major is available to provide the chemical understanding needed if you are preparing for a career in the chemical industry, outside the laboratory. A minor will be chosen in the Haworth College of Business, and students are prepared to enter areas of management, sales, and some aspects of government service.

➢ **Geochemistry major** - this 68-credit major is designed for students interested in the fields of geochemistry or environmental chemistry and is advised in the department of Geological and Environmental Sciences.

**Important Information:**

➢ You must meet one of the following math requirements: MATH ACT score of 27 or higher or MATH SAT score of 640 or successful completion of MATH 1110 (MATH 100A at MCC) with a grade of a “C” or higher or score 61% on the ALEKS math placement exam. More information about the ALEKS math placement can be found at [https://wmich.edu/math/placement](https://wmich.edu/math/placement).

➢ All chemistry majors must meet with the College of Arts and Sciences chemistry advisor about major or minor, WES, and degree requirements. You must make an advising appointment to declare your major or minor.

➢ Chemistry majors must complete a minor (except Geochemistry). Business-oriented chemistry majors will be required to complete a minor in General Business, Management, or Marketing in the Haworth College of Business (HCoB).

➢ Chemistry majors must complete their last 14 credit hours in the department of Chemistry at WMU.
➢ Chemistry minors must complete at least 8 credits at WMU.

Courses that can be taken at Muskegon:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WMU courses</th>
<th>Muskegon courses</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CHEM 1100</td>
<td>1110</td>
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<tr>
<td>CHEM 1120</td>
<td>1130</td>
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<td>CHEM 3750</td>
<td>3760</td>
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<td>CHEM 3770</td>
<td>3780</td>
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<td>MATH 1220</td>
<td>MATH 161</td>
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<tr>
<td>MATH 1230</td>
<td>MATH 162</td>
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<tr>
<td>MATH 2720</td>
<td>MATH 283 (elective for Geochem majors)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHYS 2050</td>
<td>2060</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHYS 2070</td>
<td>2080</td>
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Biochemistry majors may take this additional course:
BIOS 1620        BIOL 131

Business-oriented majors may take these additional courses:
BUS 1750        BUS 121
MGMT 2500        BUS 127 or 222
MKTG 2500        BUS 260
ACTY 2100        ACC 201

Geochemistry majors may take these courses:

***Very important note:*** Geochemistry majors only need the following Chemistry courses: CHEM 101|101A, 102|102A and CHEM 2250|2260 (not available at MCC), and 9 hours of upper level Chemistry course-work. You will also need 11 credits of Math and General Science (see below), and 9 credits of Geoscience electives (taken at WMU).

**Required:**
GEOS 1300        GEOL 101A
GEOS 1310        GEOL 102

**Math and General Science or Chemistry electives:**

- CHEM 3750|3760          CHEM 201E and 201F
- CHEM 3770|3780          CHEM 202E and 202G
- BIOS 2320      BIOL 207|207A
- MATH 2720      MATH 283
- MATH 3740      MATH 295
- PHYS 2050|2060          PHYS 203
- PHYS 2070|2080          PHYS 204

**General education requirements:**

- Please see the [WMU Essential Studies (WES) transfer guide](#) for requirements for all students.
- All students graduating from the College of Arts & Sciences must meet the world language proficiency by completing two semesters (6-8 hours) of the same foreign language or American
Sign Language or passing WMU’s proficiency by exam. Please contact the College of Arts & Sciences Undergraduate Advising Office at (269) 387-4366 with any questions. Neither the MACRAO Agreement nor the MTA satisfy the world language requirement.

- If the student’s first language is not English, then the student is exempt from this requirement. Determination of eligibility for this exemption is based on whether the student was required to take the TOEFL test for admission and can be verified through the WMU departments of Spanish or World Language and Literatures.

Contact information:
College of Arts and Sciences Chemistry advisors:

Sean Williams
chem-advising@wmich.edu
(269) 387 4341
wmich.edu/chemistry/advising, for appointments

Geochemistry advising:
Dr. Michelle Kominz - 1187 Rood Hall
michelle.kominz@wmich.edu or (269) 387-5486