why you belong here

Do you wonder how new pharmaceuticals are created? Do you question whether there could be more efficient, renewable energy sources within our reach? Do you see science as an opportunity to serve the best interests of humanity and the planet? If so, then the chemistry program at Chatham University is where you belong.

Chatham’s chemistry program is designed to provide you with a solid foundation in “the central science” along with an understanding of chemistry’s pivotal role in modern life.

You will work closely with a dedicated faculty in small classes that emphasize a rigorous academic curriculum and integrate the best traditions of the liberal arts. You’ll also gain a thorough, hands-on understanding of the laboratory, equipment, and processes vital to scientific exploration. When you complete your major, you’ll be prepared for graduate and professional work in a wide range of areas.

what you can expect

The Bachelor of Science in Chemistry at Chatham is certified by the American Chemical Society, ensuring that your education meets the high standards recognized at universities across the nation. The intimate classroom settings will help you build close bonds with your professors and fellow students. Many students who begin individual projects in their first year continue to work with the same faculty members throughout their time here.

You will be required to complete a sequence of courses and a capstone seminar. This seminar does two things: It integrates the knowledge that you’ve accumulated, and it allows you to channel that knowledge into a discipline-specific project under close faculty guidance.

Learn and conduct research alongside a dedicated faculty

Gain hands-on laboratory experience as an undergraduate

Rise to the challenge of a rigorous academic curriculum

Prepare for graduate or professional programs in a variety of fields
what you will learn

As a chemistry student you will acquire knowledge and skills to effectively undertake laboratory work, including using basic equipment, modern instrumentation, and computers, along with a keen understanding of safety, proper waste disposal, and ethical standards. You will also learn to extend your knowledge of chemistry to its connections with biology, computing, mathematics, and statistics.

where it will take you

Your major in chemistry will provide you with the tools you need to succeed beyond the classroom. Through Chatham’s Summer Undergraduate Research Program, you can apply to participate in 10-week summer work-study programs to gain more laboratory experience prior to your senior year. Plus, you will have the opportunity to apply what you learn through internship opportunities.

After completing your B.S. in chemistry, you’ll be well equipped to face the challenges of graduate or professional study in health-related programs, chemical or pharmaceutical research and development, or other possibilities. With a B.A. in chemistry, you’ll have the flexibility to earn your teaching certification for secondary education. You may also choose to further refine your focus — and save time and money — by pursuing a Master of Science in Green Chemistry through our Integrated Degree Program. Through this program, you can earn both a bachelor’s and master’s degree in as little as five years.

learn more

Read faculty bios, browse course descriptions, and review major requirements for the chatham.edu/chemistry.

“My goal with students is not to teach them everything they’ll ever need to know, but to teach them that learning is worth the effort. Whether learning a complex chemistry concept or the art of getting along with others, it’s learning and growing in one’s self that is important. By challenging students in and out of the classroom, I strive to help them achieve excellence in academics as well as a responsibility to the greater world in which they live.”

— Robert Lettan, Ph.D., assistant professor of chemistry