

CHEMISTRY (BS)

Degree: Bachelor of Science

Major: Chemistry

Program Code: 3470

About This Major . . .

Chemistry students gain a unique perspective on the composition, properties, and reactivity of the substances surrounding them. These students gain problem-solving skills that can be applied in chemistry labs, in other classes, and in day-to-day life. By having chemistry faculty with a diverse range of specialties (analytical, inorganic, physical, organic, and biochemistry), chemistry majors have the opportunity to learn about each of these fields, and they are provided with a wide variety of research opportunities. Students are trained to independently use modern instrumentation, including a 300 MHz nuclear magnetic resonance spectrometer liquid chromatograph, a mass spectrometer, and an ICP atomic emission spectrophotometer. The programs culminate in two courses designed to bridge students' coursework with their entry into the workforce or graduate school. In Advanced Laboratory, students synthesize knowledge from various chemical disciplines and apply it to solving chemical problems in a practical manner. Our Communicating in the World of Chemistry course couples with our Advanced Laboratory course to help students express themselves in a professional manner while applying for and entering their new positions.

Colorado Mesa graduates have jobs in the chemical industry and secondary education, and have gone to graduate, pharmacy, and medical schools. Our graduates have completed Ph.D. programs at the University of Denver, Arizona State University, University of Utah and University of Wyoming in chemistry, biomedical engineering and environmental engineering.

For more information on what you can do with this major, visit Career Services' [What to Do with a Major?](#) resource.

All CMU baccalaureate graduates are expected to demonstrate proficiency in specialized knowledge/applied learning, quantitative fluency, communication fluency, critical thinking, personal and social responsibility, and information literacy. In addition to these campus-wide student learning outcomes, graduates of this major will be able to:

- Demonstrate fluency in the concepts from the major fields of chemistry (inorganic, organic, physical, and analytical). (Specialized Knowledge)
- Utilize mathematics to solve chemical problems. (Quantitative Fluency)
- Employ proper experimental techniques. (Applied Learning)
- Interpret chemical information from peer-reviewed publications. (Critical Thinking)
- Communicate chemical topics effectively, both verbally and in writing. (Communication Fluency)

Requirements

Each section below contains details about the requirements for this program. Select a header to expand the information/requirements for that particular section of the program's requirements.

To print or save an overview of this program's information, including the program description, learning outcomes, requirements, suggested course sequencing (if applicable), and advising and graduation information,

scroll to the bottom of the left-hand navigation menu and select "Print Options." This will give you the options to either "Send Page to Printer" or "Download PDF of This Page." The "Download PDF of This Page" option prepares a much more concise presentation of all program information. The PDF is also printable and may be preferable due to its brevity.

Institutional Degree Requirements

The following institutional degree requirements apply to all CMU baccalaureate degrees. Specific programs may have different requirements that must be met in addition to institutional requirements.

- 120 semester hours minimum.
- Students must complete a minimum of 30 of the last 60 hours of credit at CMU, with at least 15 semester hours in major discipline courses numbered 300 or higher.
- 40 upper-division credits (an alternative credit limit applies to the Bachelor of Applied Science degree).
- 2.00 cumulative GPA or higher in all CMU coursework.
- A course may only be used to fulfill one requirement for each degree/certificate.
- No more than six semester hours of independent study courses can be used toward the degree.
- Non-traditional credit, such as advanced placement, credit by examination, credit for prior learning, cooperative education and internships, cannot exceed 30 semester credit hours for a baccalaureate degree. A maximum of 15 of the 30 credits may be for cooperative education, internships, and practica.
- Pre-collegiate courses (usually numbered below 100) cannot be used for graduation.
- Capstone exit assessment/projects (e.g., Major Field Achievement Test) requirements are identified under Program-Specific Degree Requirements.
- The Catalog Year determines which program sheet and degree requirements a student must fulfill in order to graduate. Visit with your advisor or academic department to determine which catalog year and program requirements you should follow.
- See "Requirements for Undergraduate Degrees and Certificates" in the catalog for a complete list of graduation requirements.

Essential Learning Requirements

(31 semester hours)

See the current catalog for a list of courses that fulfill the requirements below. If a course is an Essential Learning option and a requirement for your major, you must use it to fulfill the major requirement and make a different selection for the Essential Learning requirement.

Code	Title	Semester Credit Hours
English ¹		
ENGL 111	English Composition I-GTCO1	3
ENGL 112	English Composition II-GTCO2	3
Mathematics ¹		
MATH 151	Calculus I-GT-MA1 ²	3
History		
Select one History course		3
Humanities		

Select one Humanities course	3
Social and Behavioral Sciences	
Select one Social and Behavioral Sciences course	3
Select one Social and Behavioral Sciences course	3
Fine Arts	
Select one Fine Arts course	3
Natural Sciences	
Select one Natural Sciences course with a lab	4
Select one Natural Sciences course	3
Total Semester Credit Hours	31

¹ Must receive a grade of "C" or better and must be complete by the time the student has 60 semester hours.

² This is a 5 credit course. 3 credits apply to the Essential Learning requirements and 2 credits apply to foundation.

Other Lower Division Requirements

Code	Title	Semester Credit Hours
Wellness Requirement		
KINE 100	Health and Wellness	1
Select one Activity course		1
Essential Learning Capstone¹		
ESSL 290	Maverick Milestone	3
ESSL 200	Essential Speech	1
Total Semester Credit Hours		6

¹ Essential Learning Capstone must be taken after completion of the Essential Learning English and Mathematics requirements, and when a student has earned between 45 and 75 hours.

Foundation Courses

(17 semester hours, must pass all courses with a grade of "C" or higher)

Code	Title	Semester Credit Hours
MATH 151	Calculus I-GT-MA1	2
MATH 152	Calculus II	5
Select one of the following sets of courses:		5
PHYS 131 & 131L	Fundamental Mechanics-GTSC1 and Fundamental Mechanics Laboratory-GTSC1	
PHYS 111 & 111L	General Physics-GTSC1 and General Physics Laboratory-GTSC1	
Select one of the following sets of courses:		5
PHYS 132 & 132L	Electromagnetism and Optics-GTSC1 and Electromagnetism and Optics Laboratory-GTSC1	
PHYS 112 & 112L	General Physics II-GTSC1 and General Physics II Laboratory-GTSC1	
Total Semester Credit Hours		17

Program Specific Degree Requirements

(51 semester hours, must pass all courses with a grade of "C" or higher)

Code	Title	Semester Credit Hours
Core Courses		
CHEM 131	General Chemistry I-GTSC1	4
CHEM 131L	General Chemistry Laboratory I-GTSC1	1
CHEM 132	General Chemistry II-GTSC1	4
CHEM 132L	General Chemistry Laboratory II-GTSC1	1
CHEM 301	Analytical Chemistry	3
CHEM 301L	Analytical Chemistry Laboratory	1
CHEM 311	Organic Chemistry I	4
CHEM 311L	Organic Chemistry I Laboratory	1
CHEM 312	Organic Chemistry II	4
CHEM 312L	Organic Chemistry II Laboratory	1
CHEM 341	Advanced Laboratory I	2
CHEM 442	Communicating in the World of Chemistry	1
Additional Chemistry Courses		
CHEM 321	Physical Chemistry I	3
CHEM 322	Physical Chemistry II	3
CHEM 351	Inorganic Chemistry I	3
CHEM 431	Instrumental Analysis	3
CHEM 431L	Instrumental Analysis Laboratory	1
MATH 253	Calculus III	4
Total Semester Credit Hours		44

¹ Must pass all courses with a grade of "C" or higher

Code	Title	Semester Credit Hours
Restricted Electives		
Select 7 semester hours from the following list: ¹		7
CHEM 300	Environmental Chemistry	
CHEM 315	Biochemistry I	
CHEM 316	Biochemistry II	
CHEM 317L	Biochemistry Laboratory	
CHEM 352	Inorganic Chemistry II	
CHEM 396	Topics	
CHEM 397	Structured Research	
CHEM 421	Advanced Organic Chemistry I	
CHEM 422	Advanced Organic Chemistry II	
CHEM 487	Formal Research	
CHEM 494	Seminar	
CHEM 496	Topics	
Total Semester Credit Hours		7

¹ No more than 4 semester hours can come from CHEM 397 or CHEM 487.

General Electives

All college level courses appearing on your final transcript, not listed above that will bring your total semester hours to 120 hours, including 40 hours of upper division hours. 15 semester hours; 3 hours of upper division may be needed.

Code	Title	Semester Credit Hours
Select 15 hours of electives		15
Total Semester Credit Hours		15

Suggested Course Plan

Code	Title	Semester Credit Hours
First Year		
Fall Semester		
CHEM 131 & 131L	General Chemistry I-GTSC1 and General Chemistry Laboratory I-GTSC1	5
ENGL 111	English Composition I-GTCO1	3
MATH 151	Calculus I-GTMA1	5
Essential Learning - Natural Science		3
Semester Credit Hours		16
Spring Semester		
CHEM 132 & 132L	General Chemistry II-GTSC1 and General Chemistry Laboratory II-GTSC1	5
ENGL 112	English Composition II-GTCO2	3
MATH 152	Calculus II	5
Essential Learning - Natural Science with Lab		4
Semester Credit Hours		17
Second Year		
Fall Semester		
MATH 253	Calculus III	4
CHEM 311 & 311L	Organic Chemistry I and Organic Chemistry I Laboratory	5
Select one of the following:		5
PHYS 131 & 131L	Fundamental Mechanics-GTSC1 and Fundamental Mechanics Laboratory-GTSC1	
PHYS 111 & 111L	General Physics-GTSC1 and General Physics Laboratory-GTSC1	
KINE 100	Health and Wellness	1
Semester Credit Hours		15
Spring Semester		
CHEM 312 & 312L	Organic Chemistry II and Organic Chemistry II Laboratory	5
Select one of the following:		5
PHYS 132 & 132L	Electromagnetism and Optics-GTSC1 and Electromagnetism and Optics Laboratory-GTSC1	
PHYS 112 & 112L	General Physics II-GTSC1 and General Physics II Laboratory-GTSC1	
CHEM 301 & 301L	Analytical Chemistry and Analytical Chemistry Laboratory	4
Semester Credit Hours		14
Third Year		
Fall Semester		
CHEM 321	Physical Chemistry I	3
ESSL 290	Maverick Milestone	3
ESSL 200	Essential Speech	1
Essential Learning - History		3
Essential Learning - Fine Arts		3
General Elective		3
Semester Credit Hours		16

Spring Semester		
CHEM 322	Physical Chemistry II	3
CHEM 351	Inorganic Chemistry I	3
Essential Learning - Social and Behavioral Sciences		3
Essential Learning - Humanities		3
General Elective		3
Semester Credit Hours		15
Fourth Year		
Fall Semester		
CHEM 431 & 431L	Instrumental Analysis and Instrumental Analysis Laboratory	4
Essential Learning - Social and Behavioral Sciences		3
KINA Activity		1
Restricted Elective		3
General Elective		3
Semester Credit Hours		14
Spring Semester		
CHEM 341	Advanced Laboratory I	2
CHEM 442	Communicating in the World of Chemistry	1
Restricted Electives		4
General Electives (2 courses)		6
Semester Credit Hours		13
Total Semester Credit Hours		120

Advising and Graduation Advising Process and DegreeWorks

Documentation on the pages related to this program is intended for informational purposes to help determine what courses and associated requirements are needed to earn a degree. The suggested course sequencing outlines how students could finish degree requirements. Some courses are critical to complete in specific semesters, while others may be moved around. Meeting with an academic advisor is essential in planning courses and altering the suggested course sequencing. It is ultimately the student's responsibility to understand and fulfill the requirements for her/his intended degree(s).

DegreeWorks is an online degree audit tool available in MAVzone. It is the official record used by the Registrar's Office to evaluate progress towards a degree and determine eligibility for graduation. Students are responsible for reviewing their DegreeWorks audit on a regular basis and should discuss questions or concerns with their advisor or academic department head. Discrepancies in requirements should be reported to the Registrar's Office.

Graduation Process

Students must complete the following in the first two months of the semester prior to completing their degree requirements:

- Review their DegreeWorks audit and create a plan that outlines how unmet requirements will be met in the final semester.
- Meet with their advisor and modify their plan as needed. The advisor must approve the final plan.
- Submit the "Intent to Graduate" form to the Registrar's Office to officially declare the intended graduation date and commencement ceremony plans.
- Register for all needed courses and complete all requirements for each degree sought.

Submission deadlines and commencement details can be found at <http://www.coloradomesa.edu/registrar/graduation.html>.

If a student's petition for graduation is denied, it will be her/his responsibility to consult the Registrar's Office regarding next steps.