CHEMISTRY AND BIOCHEMISTRY

College of Science and Engineering
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Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry
TH 806
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Program Scope and Career Outlook

The Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry offers an outstanding educational environment for undergraduate and graduate students. Our mission is to educate, train, and produce versatile chemists and biochemists who understand both the theoretical basis and practical applications of their discipline. Department faculty provide quality instruction across a wide range of sub-disciplines. Our degree programs are designed to prepare students for various professional positions (i.e., biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies, chemical manufacturing, and other laboratory-based industries), health professions (i.e., medical, pharmacy, and dental school), graduate study, and teaching positions.

Students receive significant hands-on experience with modern instrumentation in our relatively small-sized lab classes, and the opportunity to participate in research projects under the direct supervision of our faculty. The department houses a variety of state-of-the-art research instrumentation, laboratory facilities, and computational labs. These include a Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) facility, a Mass Spectrometry (MS) facility, a Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM) facility, and the Computational Chemistry and Visualization (CCV) laboratory.

The Bachelor of Arts in Chemistry program is particularly well-suited for those students whose career goals involve the integration of chemistry with other fields. This program can be combined with another degree or minor to develop the unique synthesis of experience needed for careers in health professions, forensic science, environmental science, regulatory affairs, chemical engineering, patent law, management, sales, marketing, technical writing, scientific journalism, library science, and art restoration.

This degree also provides a strong foundation for a graduate degree in biochemistry.

The Master of Science degree in Chemistry and the Master of Science degree in Chemistry with a concentration in Biochemistry are programs of study with research at the core. As the student focuses in-depth on an independent scientific investigation, solid research and communication skills are developed. The goal of both M.S. degree programs is to provide students with a thorough grounding in laboratory and research skills, and in-depth training in their areas of specialization. Our M.S. program provides excellent training for:

a. careers in all aspects of the chemical industry (biotechnology, environment, process and analytical, basic research);

b. science educators seeking to increase their skill and knowledge base; and
c. students whose goal is advanced study at the Ph.D. level.

The M.S. in Chemistry program is approved by the ACS.

Significant features of our department include high-quality teaching, one-on-one advising for all of our majors, and opportunities for students to participate in research under the direct supervision of active faculty members who are recognized authorities in their field. Students interested in becoming involved in research should consult with an advisor and review faculty research interests on our department website (chemistry.sfsu.edu/). Examples of research projects currently under investigation by our faculty members and their research students include:

Analytical Chemistry

Identification and quantitation of organic pollutants via Gas Chromatography/Mass Spectrometry (GC/MS) and Direct Sampling Mass Spectrometry (DSMS). Application of X-Ray Fluorescence spectrometry (XRF) to the determination of toxic elements in foods, supplements, and other products. Development of novel analytical techniques for separation and detection of redox-sensitive trace species.

Biochemistry

Biophysical Chemistry
Biophysical spectroscopic methods, including nanosecond time-resolved polarized absorption spectroscopy, to characterize biological function and examine the molecular basis of disease. Chromatin folding, dynamics, and stability.

Chemical Education
Identify student experiences and instructional practices that promote student success in chemistry courses and persistence in STEM majors. Design experiences to engage students in applying course-based chemistry knowledge to address community questions and societal needs.

Environmental Chemistry
Detection of trace levels of volatile organic compounds and heavy metals in urban air, water, and soil samples. Determination of structures and speciation of metals and trace elements adsorbed on environmental surfaces by X-ray absorption spectroscopy. Modeling speciation, precipitation, and adsorption reactions of trace elements in environmental systems. Development and characterization of reactive metallic and mineral-based remediation materials for soil and water contaminants. Investigation of the composition and degradation of organic matter in marine systems through quantification and modeling of natural carbon isotopes.

Organic/Bioorganic Chemistry
Organic synthesis, the chemistry of fulvenes, total synthesis of flavonoid anticancer agents, singlet oxygen chemistry, and organic peroxides. Molecular imaging, synthesis and biological evaluation of natural products, synthetic organometallic chemistry. Design, synthesis, and optimization of novel enzyme and channel inhibitors to treat human disease. Mechanisms of fundamental organic reactions by computational and experimental approaches, design and synthesis of substrate analogs to elucidate the catalytic mechanisms of enzymes, new synthetic methods for heterocyclic molecules.

Materials and Inorganic Chemistry
Synthesis and characterization of semiconducting thin films with applications to solar cells, water splitting, water remediation, and CO₂ reduction. Growth and nucleation of crystalline TiO₂ by atomic force microscopy (AFM) and in situ grazing incidence X-ray diffraction (GIXRD). Computational approaches to speed the development of solid-state batteries, photocatalysts, and quantum computers using Density Functional Theory and Molecular dynamics.

Natural Products Chemistry
Isolation and characterization of novel compounds from marine microorganisms from sediments, algae, and sponges with anti-cancer, or anti-malarial properties.

Physical Chemistry
Synthesis and characterization of heteroatom-substituted zeolites by XRD, solid-state MAS–NMR, and optical spectroscopy, with applications to photocatalysis of carbon dioxide to fuels. Photophysics and electron spin resonance (ESR) investigation of thin films for applications in photovoltaics and photocatalysis.

Professor
Masters

- Master of Science in Chemistry (http://bulletin.sfsu.edu/colleges/science-engineering/chemistry-biochemistry/ms-chemistry/)
- Master of Science in Chemistry: Concentration in Biochemistry (http://bulletin.sfsu.edu/colleges/science-engineering/chemistry-biochemistry/ms-chemistry-concentration-biochemistry/)

CHEM 100 Preparation for Chemistry (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: Category I or II QR/Math placement; or Category III or IV QR/Math placement and MATH 197 with a grade of C or better; or GE Area B4 (may be taken concurrently) with a grade of C or better.

Elementary concepts of chemistry. Development of skills in applying mathematics to solving problems in chemistry. Preparation for CHEM 115 or CHEM 180. (Plus-minus ABC/NC grading only)

CHEM 101 Survey of Chemistry (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: Category I or II QR/Math placement; or Category III or IV QR/Math placement and MATH 197 with a grade of C or better; or GE Area B4 (may be taken concurrently).


Course Attributes:
- B1: Physical Science

CHEM 102 Survey of Chemistry Laboratory (Unit: 1)
Laboratory to accompany or follow CHEM 101. Extra fee required. (Charges for missing or damaged laboratory locker items apply)

Course Attributes:
- B3: Lab Science

CHEM 115 General Chemistry I: Essential Concepts of Chemistry (Units: 5)
Prerequisites: Category I or II QR/Math placement; or Category III or IV QR/Math placement and MATH 197 with a grade of C or better; or GE Area B4. Satisfactory score on the Chemistry readiness assessment. CHEM 100 is recommended for students needing additional preparation.

Essential concepts of atomic properties, atomic interactions, reaction chemistry, stoichiometry, thermodynamics, chemical kinetics, and equilibria. Lecture, 3 units; seminar, 1 unit; laboratory, 1 unit. Extra fee required. (Charges for missing or damaged laboratory locker items apply)

CHEM 130 General Organic Chemistry (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: CHEM 115* with a grade of C or better.

Common organic compounds and basic principles. For laboratory, see CHEM 234. Cannot be used for the Chemistry or Biochemistry degrees.

CHEM 234 Organic Chemistry I Laboratory (Units: 2)
Prerequisite: CHEM 233 or CHEM 130 with a grade of C or better. Additional requirement. High school chemistry is recommended.

Techniques and selected experiments in organic chemistry. Lecture, 1 unit; laboratory, 1 unit. Extra fee required. (Charges for missing or damaged laboratory locker items apply)

CHEM 251 Mathematics and Physics for Chemistry (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: CHEM 215, MATH 227, PHYS 230, and PHYS 232 or (on advisement) PHYS 121 and PHYS 122, all with grades of C or better; or permission of instructor; concurrent enrollment in CHEM 351 is strongly recommended.

Integrated mathematics and physics for physical chemistry including fluids, wave motion, thermodynamics, partial derivatives, multiple integrals, introductory vector calculus, and introductory differential equations and linear algebra. (Plus-minus letter grade only)
CHEM 300 Physical Chemistry for Life Sciences I (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: CHEM 321*, CHEM 335*, MATH 227*, and one of PHYS 121*, PHYS 230*, or PHYS 240* with grades of C or better; CHEM 340 or CHEM 349 recommended.

Application of chemical equilibria and thermodynamics, the kinetic theory of gases, and properties of solutions to biological systems. Lecture, 2 units; activity, 1 unit. Designed for Biochemistry, pre-professional curricula, Biology, and BA in Chemistry majors.

CHEM 301 Physical Chemistry for Life Sciences II (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: CHEM 300 or CHEM 351 with a grade of C or better or permission of the instructor.

Quantum mechanics, spectroscopy, biophysical spectroscopy, intermolecular forces, macromolecules, and statistical thermodynamics. Lecture, 2 units; activity, 1 unit. Intended for Biochemistry and Biology majors.

CHEM 321 Quantitative Chemical Analysis (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: CHEM 215* and CHEM 216* with grades of C or better. Intended for Chemistry, Biochemistry, and Biology majors.

Foundation course in analytical chemistry with a focus on quantitative analysis. Topics include uncertainties, statistics, equilibria, titrimetric methods, electrochemistry and potentiometry, molecular and atomic spectroscopy, mass spectroscopy, and chromatography. (Plus-minus letter grade only)

CHEM 322 Quantitative Chemical Analysis Laboratory (Units: 2)
Prerequisite: CHEM 321* with a grade of C or better (may be taken concurrently).

Practical experience in performing accurate and precise measurements of chemical species in a variety of real-world samples using gravimetric, titrimetric, potentiometric, spectroscopic, and chromatographic methods. Intended for Chemistry, Biochemistry, and Biology majors. Laboratory, 2 units. Extra fee required. (Charges for missing or damaged laboratory locker items apply) (Plus-minus letter grade only)

CHEM 325 Inorganic Chemistry (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: CHEM 215* and CHEM 335* with grades of C or better.


CHEM 335 Organic Chemistry II (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: CHEM 233* with a grade of C or better.

Continuation of CHEM 233.

CHEM 336 Organic Chemistry II Laboratory (Units: 2)
Prerequisites: CHEM 234* and CHEM 335* (may be taken concurrently) with grades of C or better.

Techniques and experiments in organic synthesis, isolation, purification, and characterization. Intended for science majors. Activity, 1 unit; laboratory, 1 unit. Extra fee required. (Charges for missing or damaged laboratory locker items apply) (Plus-minus letter grade only)

CHEM 340 Biochemistry I (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: CHEM 215, CHEM 233, and CHEM 335* with grades of C or better. Intended for Chemistry, Biochemistry, and Biology majors.

Introduction to Biochemistry including protein structure and function, carbohydrate metabolism, enzyme kinetics and thermodynamics, and electron transport chain.

CHEM 341 Biochemistry II (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: CHEM 340* with a grade of C or better.

Biosynthesis and degradation of lipids, amino acids, and nucleotides. Protein synthesis, folding, and degradation. DNA and RNA structure. DNA replication and transcription.

CHEM 343 Biochemistry I Laboratory (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: Restricted to Chemistry and Biochemistry majors; CHEM 216*, CHEM 234*, and CHEM 340* (may be taken concurrently) or CHEM 349* (may be taken concurrently) with grades of C or better; CHEM 321 is recommended.

Chemical and enzymatic experiments involving proteins, carbohydrates, and nucleic acids with emphasis on enzyme kinetics. Utilization of standard and modern biochemical techniques. Lecture, 1 unit; laboratory, 2 units. Extra fee required. (Charges for missing or damaged laboratory locker items apply) (Plus-minus letter grade only)

CHEM 349 General Biochemistry (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: CHEM 215* with a grade of C or better, and CHEM 130* with a grade of C or better or CHEM 335* with a grade of C- or better.

Nutrition and Dietetics majors CHEM 130* with a grade of C or better; or permission of instructor.

Survey of major areas in Biochemistry including enzymology, bioenergetics, and carbohydrate, lipid, and nucleic acid metabolism. Not intended for B.S. Biochemistry or Chemistry majors. Students who have completed CHEM 340 may not take CHEM 349 for credit.

CHEM 351 Physical Chemistry I: Thermodynamics and Kinetics (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: Restricted to upper-division standing; CHEM 233 and CHEM 251 (concurrent enrollment recommended); or MATH 228 and either PHYS 230 and PHYS 232; or (on advisement) PHYS 121, PHYS 122, and CHEM 321; all with grades of C or better; or permission of instructor.

Thermodynamics and kinetics theory. Lecture, 2 units; activity, 1 unit.

CHEM 353 Physical Chemistry II: Quantum Chemistry and Spectroscopy (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: Restricted to upper-division standing; CHEM 233 and CHEM 251 or MATH 228 and either PHYS 230 and PHYS 232; or (on advisement) PHYS 121, PHYS 122, and CHEM 321; all with grades of C or better; or permission of instructor.

Quantum chemistry, spectroscopy of atoms and molecules, and statistical thermodynamics. Lecture, 2 units; activity, 1 unit.

CHEM 370 Computer Applications in Chemistry and Biochemistry (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: CHEM 321 and CHEM 233 with grades of C or better.

Data acquisition, manipulation, and presentation with an emphasis on software used in chemistry and biochemistry laboratories. Computational chemistry and molecular visualization software for small and large molecules. Development of interactive molecular visualization web pages. Lecture, 2 units; laboratory, 1 unit.
CHEM 380 Chemistry Behind Environmental Pollution (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: GE Areas A1*, A2*, A3*, and B4* all with grades of C- or better; CHEM 115* or CHEM 180* with a grade of C- or better; or permission of the instructor.

Traditional and contemporary topics in environmental chemistry. Understanding and appreciation of various chemical processes and principles underlying environmental problems facing society.

Course Attributes:
- UD-B: Physical Life Science
- Environmental Sustainability

CHEM 390GW Contemporary Chemistry and Biochemistry Research - GWAR (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: Upper-division Chemistry and Biochemistry majors; GE Area A2; CHEM 216 or CHEM 234 with a grade of C or higher.

Improve skills in written and oral communication with an emphasis on the communication skills expected of professional chemists and biochemists. (ABC/NC grading only)

Course Attributes:
- Graduation Writing Assessment

CHEM 420 Environmental Analysis (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: CHEM 321* and CHEM 322* with grades of C or better.

Practical analysis of real-world samples and environmental pollutants. Statistics, QA/QC, heavy metal analysis via atomic spectroscopy, and organic pollutant analysis via GC/MS. Lecture, 2 units; laboratory, 1 unit. Extra fee required. (Charges for missing or damaged laboratory locker items apply) (Plus-minus letter grade only)

CHEM 422 Instrumental Analysis (Units: 4)
Prerequisites: CHEM 321* and CHEM 322* with grades of C or better.

Instrumental methods for chemical and biochemical analysis including basic electronics, molecular and atomic spectroscopy, IR and Raman spectroscopy, mass spectrometry, and chromatography. Lecture, 2 units; laboratory, 2 units. Extra fee required. (Charges for missing or damaged laboratory locker items apply) (Plus-minus letter grade only)

CHEM 426 Advanced Inorganic Chemistry Laboratory (Units: 2)
Prerequisites: CHEM 321, CHEM 322, and CHEM 325* with grades of C or better or permission of the instructor.

Modern techniques in inorganic chemistry with an emphasis on synthesis, characterization, and reactivity of metals in a variety of materials including biological and environmental samples. Laboratory. Extra fee required. (Charges for missing or damaged laboratory locker items apply) (Plus-minus letter grade only)

CHEM 433 Advanced Organic Chemistry (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: CHEM 335* with a grade of C or better.

Theoretical aspects of organic chemistry, molecular structure, and reaction mechanisms.

CHEM 443 Biophysical Chemistry Laboratory (Units: 4)
Prerequisites: CHEM 343 with a grade of C or better and CHEM 301 or CHEM 353 (may be taken concurrently).

Experiments using modern techniques in biochemistry, bioinformatics, molecular biology, and biophysics for the study of biological macromolecules. Lecture, 2 units; laboratory, 2 units. Extra fee required. (Charges for missing or damaged laboratory locker items apply) (Plus-minus letter grade only)

CHEM 451 Experimental Physical Chemistry Laboratory (Units: 2)
Prerequisites: CHEM 321, CHEM 322, CHEM 351, CHEM 353 or CHEM 300 and CHEM 301, with grades of C or better, or consent of instructor.

Emphasis on molecular spectroscopy, thermodynamics, kinetics, electrochemistry, applications of computational chemistry, and error analysis. 2 laboratory periods per week. Extra fee required. (Charges for missing or damaged laboratory locker items apply) (Plus-minus letter grade only)

CHEM 477 Organic Chemistry of Drug Synthesis and Activity (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: CHEM 335* with a grade of C or better; concurrent enrollment in CHEM 340* or CHEM 349*.

Survey of organic chemistry topics related to modern pharmaceuticals including heterocyclic chemistry (synthesis and presence in drugs), metabolism, drug-delivery, an overview of various classes of drugs, and antibody-drug conjugates.

CHEM 645GW Research Trends in Chemistry and Biochemistry - GWAR (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: GE Area A2; CHEM 340; GPA of 3.0 or better.

Self-directed learning experience for undergraduates in modern research topics in chemistry and biochemistry. (Plus-minus ABC/NC grading only)

Course Attributes:
- Graduation Writing Assessment

CHEM 667 Optical Engineering for the Biological Sciences (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: MATH 226; BIOL 230 or CHEM 215 with a grade of C or better; or permission of the instructor.

A hands-on introduction to applying advances in low-cost computers and digital cameras to microscope design. Emphasis on learning the fundamentals of optical engineering and image processing used in digital microscopy, as well as essential skills in optical design, instrumentation, machining, and fabrication. Includes building a lensless microscope capable of capturing and processing images of plankton. Lecture, 1 unit; laboratory, 2 units. (Plus-minus letter grade; RP grading only)

(This course is offered as BIOL 667 and CHEM 667. Students may not repeat the course under an alternate prefix.)

CHEM 680 Chemical Oceanography (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: CHEM 215 or equivalent.

Investigation of the composition and dynamics of the ocean through chemistry. (Plus-minus letter grade only)

CHEM 685 Projects in the Teaching of Chemistry and Biochemistry (Unit: 1)
Prerequisites: A grade of B or better in the course in which student will be instructing; permission of the instructor.

Instructional methods and techniques for effective student teaching, leading class discussions and activities, and carrying out class demonstrations. May be repeated for a total of 4 units.
CHEM 686 Experiences in Teaching Chemistry and Biochemistry (Units: 1)
Prerequisites: A grade of B or better in the course in which the student will be instructing; CHEM 685 (may be taken concurrently); or permission of the instructor.

Activity practicum for students serving as Learning Assistants (LAs) in STEM courses. LAs will directly assist STEM instructors in facilitating active learning in their classrooms. May be repeated for a total of 6 units.

CHEM 694 Cooperative Education in Chemistry (Unit: 1)
Prerequisite: Upper-division standing or permission of the instructor. Enrollment by prior arrangement with supervising faculty member and industry sponsor. See department adviser for details.

Supervised chemistry laboratory experience in the industry. A final written report is required. May be repeated for a total of 3 units. (Plus-minus letter grade only)

CHEM 699 Independent Study (Units: 1-6)
Prerequisite: Permission of the department and instructor.

Laboratory or library research work focused on chemistry and biochemistry problems directed by a department faculty. For advanced, superior students majoring or minoring in Chemistry or Biochemistry. Final written report required. May be repeated. (Plus-minus letter grade only)

CHEM 741 Electron Microscopy (Units: 4)
Prerequisites: Graduate or senior standing and permission of the instructor.

Introduction to electron microscopy with a focus on instrumentation, image formation and interpretation, x-ray microanalysis, sample preparation, artifacts, and related techniques. Laboratory work includes operation of the electron microscope, x-ray microanalysis, and the preparation of biological and inorganic specimens for scanning and transmission electron microscopy. Seminar, 2 units; laboratory, 2 units. Extra fee required. (Plus-minus letter grade only)
This course is offered as BIOL 741, CHEM 741, and ERTH 741. Students may not repeat the course under an alternate prefix.

CHEM 740 Special Topics in Chemistry (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Graduate standing in Chemistry or permission of the instructor.

Advanced and current study in various chemistry and biochemistry specialties. Topics to be specified in the Class Schedule. May be repeated when topics vary.
Topics:
   a. Methods in Proteomics
   b. Chemistry of Natural Products
   c. Transition Metals in Organic Synthesis
   d. X-Ray Techniques in Chemistry
   e. Proteins & Enzymes: Structure, Function & Engr
   g. Polymers: Synthesis, Structure & Characterization
   h. Electrochemistry & Electrochemical Devices

CHEM 806 Exploratory Data Science for Scientists (Units: 4)
Prerequisite: Graduate standing; or upper-division standing with permission of the instructor; a college-level computer science course.

Introduction to the fundamentals of data science through its applications in biology and chemistry research. Exploration of data preparation, analysis, and reporting using real-world scientific datasets. Lecture, 3 units; activity, 1 unit.
This course is offered as BIOL 806 and CHEM 806. Students may not repeat the course under an alternate prefix.

CHEM 807 Coding Community for Data Science Components of Independent Research Projects (Unit: 1)
Prerequisites: Graduate standing; BIOL 806/CHEM 806 or equivalent (concurrent enrollment recommended); or permission of the instructor.

Applications of data science principles to independent research for a master’s thesis. May be repeated for a total of 3 units.
This course is offered as CHEM 807 and BIOL 807. Students may not repeat the course under an alternate prefix.

CHEM 808 Professional Prospects for Quantitative Biologists, Data Scientists, and Bioinformaticians (Unit: 1)
Prerequisite: BIOL 806*/CHEM 806*

Connect with data scientists from Bay Area industries, universities, and government agencies. Data scientists will be invited to campus to discuss current trends in the industry, specific positions and roles achievable for students post-graduation, CV composition, job interview skills, and professional experiences in a broad set of workplaces.
Practice professional communication skills and experience post-graduate workplace culture. (CR/NC grading only)
This course is offered as BIOL 808 and CHEM 808. Students may not repeat the course under an alternate prefix.

CHEM 821 Mass Spectrometry - Principles and Practice (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Graduate standing in Chemistry or permission of the instructor.

Fundamental principles and modern practice of mass spectrometry, instrumentation (mass analyzers, ionization modes, sample introduction systems) and applications (qualitative and quantitative analysis, environmental and biomedical applications). (Plus-minus letter grade only)

CHEM 832 Organic Synthesis (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Graduate standing in Chemistry or permission of the instructor.

Problems relating to current organic synthetic methods. Synthesis and reactions of the major classes of mono- and polyfunctional compounds.

CHEM 834 Organic Spectroscopic Methods (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: Graduate Chemistry students; CHEM 301 or CHEM 353; or permission of the instructor.

Relations between molecular structure and spectroscopic behavior. Mass spectrometry, infrared, electronic, and magnetic resonance spectroscopy.

CHEM 841 Enzymology (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: Graduate Chemistry students; CHEM 341, CHEM 301 or CHEM 353; or consent of the instructor.

The relationships between enzyme structure and catalytic activity, including enzyme kinetics and mechanisms.
CHEM 842 Bioorganic and Medicinal Chemistry (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Graduate Chemistry students or consent of the instructor.

Molecular recognition, enzymatic reaction mechanisms, catalytic antibodies/polymers, enzymes in organic synthesis, pharmacodynamics, and drug action, drug design for pharmacokinetic problems.

CHEM 851 Biochemical Spectroscopy (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: Graduate chemistry students; passing ACS diagnostic examination in quantum chemistry; a biochemistry course; or consent of the instructor.

Quantum chemistry elements. Principles, techniques, and biochemical applications of spectroscopy.

CHEM 870 Computational Methods in Chemistry (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: Upper-division or graduate standing; one year of undergraduate physical chemistry.

Introduction to quantum chemical and classical mechanical methods for the computation of molecular structure, molecular spectroscopy, liquid state transport properties, and molecular reactivity for small and large molecules, including solids and interactions at surfaces. Hands-on use of four software packages: Gaussian 09, AMBER molecular dynamics, LAMMPS dynamics for mesoscopic systems, and BEST for molecular hydrodynamics. (Plus-minus letter grade only)

CHEM 879 Research Methods I (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Graduate standing or permission of the instructor.

Development of background, specific research aims, methods, and outcomes. Includes literature review, writing assignments, and oral presentations. (Plus-minus letter grade, RP grading only)

CHEM 880 Research Methods II (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: Graduate standing; CHEM 879; or permission of the instructor.

Exploration of current areas and methods of chemical research. Scientific writing and presentations emphasizing students’ independent research projects. (Plus-minus letter grade, RP grading only)

CHEM 895 Research Project (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor; approval of Advancement to Candidacy (ATC) and Culminating Experience (CE) forms by Graduate Studies.

Supervised independent and original laboratory investigation. Guidelines are available through the Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry. (CR/NC grading only)

CHEM 897 Research (Units: 1-12)
Prerequisite: Graduate standing and permission of the instructor.

Independent and original experimental, computational, or theoretical research under faculty supervision. May be repeated for a total of 12 units. (Plus-minus letter grade, RP grading only)

CHEM 898 Master’s Thesis (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor; approval of Advancement to Candidacy (ATC) for the Master of Science in Chemistry and Culminating Experience (CE) forms by Graduate Studies.

(CR/NC grading only)