The Department's graduate programs (Graduate Programs) include sponsoring informational programs and allowing students to work at university events. The Chemistry Club provides a social and informational network for students. It serves the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry by encouraging students to participate in the Pre-Pharmacy Society. This student organization organizes supplemental programming focused toward encouraging students who are interested in pursuing careers in pharmacy to consult the health professions advising requirements of these professional schools by majoring in chemistry. Many students planning medical, dental, pharmacy, veterinary, optometry, or other health professional careers choose to pursue a major in chemistry. Students planning medical, dental, or veterinary careers may meet the requirements of these professional schools by majoring in chemistry.

**Pre-Medical, Pre-Dental, Pre-Pharmacy, and Pre-Veterinary Students**

Web: prehealth.gmu.edu (http://prehealth.gmu.edu)

Many students planning medical, dental, pharmacy, veterinary, optometry, or other health professional careers choose to pursue a major in chemistry. These students should consult the health professions advising web site on required coursework and overall preparation.

**Pre-Pharmacy Society**

Mason students who are interested in pursuing careers in pharmacy are encouraged to participate in the Pre-Pharmacy Society. This student organization organizes supplemental programming focused toward pharmacy as a career.

**Chemistry Club**

The Chemistry Club provides a social and informational network for students. It serves the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry by sponsoring informational programs and allowing students to work at university events.

**Graduate Programs**

The department's graduate programs (MS (https://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/science/chemistry-biochemistry/chemistry-ms/) and PhD (https://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/science/chemistry-biochemistry/chemistry-biochemistry-phd/)) provide advanced training for students who are recent college graduates, professionals in teaching, or technical workers in local research organizations. Students select a specialization from the fields of analytical, biological, environmental, inorganic, organic, physical, or computational chemistry. The graduate chemistry courses for these programs are usually offered during the late afternoon or evening hours for the convenience of students who are employed full-time. Graduate fellowships and teaching/research assistantships are available to the most qualified students.

The department offers a Chemistry, MS (https://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/science/chemistry-biochemistry/chemistry-ms/) with a research project (thesis option) or an all coursework program (non-thesis option). Within the MS, students may pursue a concentration in biochemistry. The PhD in all branches of chemistry is available through the Chemistry and Biochemistry, PhD. Students may also pursue Chemistry-related PhD research through the Environmental Science and Public Policy, PhD and the Biosciences, PhD. An area of emphasis in computational chemistry is available through the Computational Sciences and Informatics, PhD, offered in conjunction with the Department of Computational and Data Sciences.

**Faculty**

**Department Faculty**

**Professors**

Foster, Hussam

**Associate Professors**

Bishop, Couch, Hatton, Honeychuck, Jones, Schreifels, Slayden, Van Aken, Weatherspoon (chair)

**Assistant Professors**

Erb (associate chair), Fayissa, Paige, Jing, You

**Emeriti**

Cozzens, Davies

**Requirements & Policies**

**Requirements**

**Writing Intensive Requirement**

Mason requires all undergraduate students to complete at least one course designated as "writing intensive" in their majors at the 300 level or above. Students majoring in chemistry fulfill this requirement by successfully completing CHEM 336 Physical Chemistry Lab I or CHEM 465 Biochemistry Lab.

**Teacher Licensure**

Students who wish to become teachers should consult the College of Education and Human Development (http://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/education-human-development/) and attend an information session early in their studies. For more information, visit gse.gmu.edu (http://gse.gmu.edu).
Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry

Programs

• Chemistry Minor
• Chemistry and Biochemistry, PhD
• Chemistry, BA
• Chemistry, BS
• Chemistry, MS