The Chemistry Department is dedicated to equity, engagement, and belonging and offers many concrete opportunities for all students, including those new to chemistry, to join us as valued and respected members of our community.
Top 5 Reasons to Study Chemistry!!

“I appreciate how willing the faculty always are to answer my questions.”
– Chemistry Major ’25

1. Chemistry is literally in everything! 📚
Chemistry helps us understand every single physical thing, from our bodies to our smartphones.

2. It catalyzes a world of opportunities! ✨
There’s nothing you *can’t* do – our majors go onto medical school, graduate school, industry, business, education, law – the sky’s the limit.

3. You can be the first to discover something new! 🧪
Our students carry out research in topics ranging from drug discovery to astrochemistry. You can work at the frontiers of knowledge!

4. It’s a great bonding experience (pHun intended)! ❤️
You can be part of a wonderful community. Come to our cookie parties, game nights, and more.

5. It’s pHun! 😊
Foster your inner intellectual curiosity and enjoy the pleasure of developing hands-on lab skills, analytical and numeracy skills, and the art of asking questions.
A Chemistry Major Gets to Experience...

“The supportive atmosphere created by the students and encouraged by the professors in class have not only helped me build my confidence as a student but also as a person.”

– Chemistry Major ’25

1. Introductory Chemistry [CHEM 105/205 or 105P/205 or CHEM 116/205 or CHEM 120]

2. Organic Chemistry [CHEM 211/212]

3. Physical Chemistry [CHEM 330]

4. Three of the following options:
   - Biochemistry [CHEM 223]
   - Physical Chemistry II [CHEM 335]
   - Inorganic Chemistry [CHEM 341]
   - Analytical Chemistry [CHEM 361]

5. One unit of research/independent study or completion of approved summer or off-campus research.

6. One additional chemistry course at the 300 level - there are lots of exciting options spanning topics from nanoscience to astrochemistry!

7. Physics (Mechanics [PHYS 104 or 107] and Electricity/Magnetism [PHYS 106 or 108])

8. At least one Math course past calculus [MATH 205 or 215]
There are so many ways to get involved in doing hands-on research in which you directly contribute to new knowledge in the field. From synthesizing novel anti-cancer molecules to using gases to investigate climate change to exploring hypotheses for how prebiotic molecules could be formed in outer space, you can explore cutting-edge questions in science while gaining valuable skills. Many programs exist to provide stipends or awards for eligible students, and you can also carry out research for course credit. We recommend starting your research journey during your sophomore or junior year.

"I have felt nothing but support and encouragement from the chemistry department, which has given me invaluable resources and opportunities. Wellesley students and faculty make me look forward to the fun in chemistry classes!"

– Chemistry Major '24
To Learn More...

https://www.wellesley.edu/chemistry

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