Biochemistry is a science in which the principles of chemistry, biology, mathematics and physics are focused on investigations of biomolecules, cells, tissues and organisms. Biochemistry prepares students for careers in many areas of science, medicine, agriculture and industry.

Career Opportunities
Students who earn degrees in biochemistry may choose from numerous employment opportunities. Most graduates work in research at:
- universities, medical schools, and veterinary medical schools
- state and federal research institutions
- pharmaceutical companies and biotechnology firms
- agribusiness companies, food industries, and hospitals.

Careers in pharmaceutical, medical and other industrial sales are also available to biochemists. Some graduates select teaching careers in high schools, colleges and universities or administrative careers in science, industry or academic institutions.

As a preprofessional curriculum, an undergraduate major in biochemistry prepares students for careers in medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine, optometry or pharmacy.

Research
Research is focused in the following areas of common interest:
- structure and function of RNA and RNA-protein complexes
- structural biology of proteins
- animal and plant viruses
- plant molecular biology
- transcriptional and translational regulation of gene expression

Course Work/Curriculum
The biochemistry Bachelor of Science curriculum is a rigorous program that requires 124 hours to graduate. A faculty adviser will help you plan your program from the following course work areas to fulfill your desired career objectives.

Biochemistry (15-17 hours):
- general biochemistry, biochemistry laboratory; biochemistry research (3-6 hours); honors research, special studies

Chemistry (23-25 hours):
- general chemistry, organic chemistry, physical chemistry, laboratory analysis

Physics (8 hours): general physics

Mathematics (12-15 hours):
- calculus and statistics and/or computer science

Life Sciences (22-24 hours):
- general biology, genetics, microbiology, life sciences electives (11-12 hours)

Graduate Study
The Department offers programs of graduate study and research leading to the Ph.D. and Master's degrees. The graduate program is designed to prepare Ph.D. scientists for careers in research and teaching. Additional information can be found on the web site.

Co-Curricular Activities
Students are invited to join the Biochemistry Club. The club is designed to foster fellowship, stimulate awareness of career opportunities, and provide advice for students seeking professional careers.

Career Services
In addition to faculty advisers, CALS Career Services is available to provide information about career and employment opportunities. The office assists students and alumni with a variety of career needs such as choosing a major, resume tips, and job search strategies.

For more information:

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