CHEMISTRY, B.A.

WISCONSIN EXPERIENCE

RESEARCH

There are many research opportunities for undergraduates in the Department of Chemistry. When conducting research, students will have the opportunity to work alongside world-class faculty, staff, and graduate students to gain hands-on research experiences that will supplement their liberal arts education and prepare students for future careers. We have researchers involved in all the core areas of chemistry: analytical, chemical biology, chemical education, inorganic, materials, organic, physical, and theoretical. Many of our researchers conduct research across disciplines, including medicine, pharmacy, biology, engineering, energy, environmental sciences, and physics. Although preference is given to chemistry majors in good academic standing, any student interested in conducting chemistry research can seek out opportunities in our department. Students have the option of volunteering in a research lab or conducting research for course credit by enrolling in CHEM 299 Directed Study, CHEM 699 Directed Study, CHEM 681/CHEM 682 Senior Honors Thesis, or CHEM 691/CHEM 692 Senior Thesis. Students can also gain research experiences through the elective courses CHEM 260 Entering Research I, CHEM 261 Entering Research II, and CHEM 346 Intermediate Organic Chemistry Laboratory, as well as the required course CHEM 329 Fundamentals of Analytical Science. In some cases, experienced undergraduates may be paid to conduct research. For additional information about undergraduate research, including how to get involved, please visit the department’s Undergraduate Research (https://undergradresearch.chem.wisc.edu/) page.

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

A number of student organizations are available for students interested in the chemical sciences.

- The American Chemical Society (ACS) Student Chapter (https://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/education/students/college/studentaffiliates.html) facilitates opportunities for students in the chemical sciences to promote the learning and advancement of chemistry. The chapter supports students in their academic development, professional development, and research pursuits.
- Alpha Chi Sigma (AXE) (http://alphachisigmauw.com/) is a national, co-ed, professional chemistry organization that was founded at UW–Madison in 1902. The UW-Madison chapter has an active membership of about 40 students, both graduate and undergraduate. The organization also has two houses, at 619 and 621 North Lake Street, which house nearly half of the members. The houses are the primary locations for events like tutoring, chapter dinners, meetings, and social events.
- Students Participating in Chemical Education (SPICE) (http://ice.chem.wisc.edu/outreach/spice/) trains undergraduates to perform chemistry demonstrations in order to interest elementary and middle school students in chemistry and science via cool experiments, hands-on activities, and exploration stations at public venues.
- The UW–Madison student chapter of NOBCChE (https://www.nobcche.org/) (National Organization for the Professional Advancement of Black Chemists and Chemical Engineers) seeks to encourage students of color to pursue graduate and professional degrees in chemistry, chemical engineering, and other chemistry-related fields. Members participate in professional development through national conference presentations, networking, and community service activities.
- SACNAS (https://win.wisc.edu/organization/sacnas/) (the Society for the Advancement of Hispanics/Chicanos and Native Americans) is a society of scientists dedicated to fostering the success of Hispanic/Chicano and Native American scientists—from college students to professionals—to attain advanced degrees, careers, and positions of leadership in science.