

Chemistry



Undergraduate study

Courses

Single Honours

BSc Chemistry

three years F100

BSc Chemistry with a Preliminary Year of Study

four years F108

MSci Chemistry

four years F103

MSci Chemistry with Industrial Experience

four years F105

MSci Chemistry with Study Abroad

four years F107

MSci Chemistry with Study in Continental Europe

four years F104

This leaflet contains information for students planning to start university in autumn 2019. We have made every effort to ensure all details are correct at the time of going to press (June 2018). However, since this information is subject to change, you are advised to check the University's website, bristol.ac.uk/ug-study, for the latest updates.

Why study chemistry at Bristol?

As one of the UK's biggest chemistry schools, we have a superb reputation for teaching and research. This means that your course will be delivered by experts who bring the latest thinking into the laboratory and lecture theatre and it will give you the opportunity to collaborate on exciting projects at the forefront of chemistry research.

The many options we offer allow you to tailor your course to suit your interests and choose the right path for your future career. You could investigate aspects of theoretical chemistry, make new compounds in a synthetic chemistry lab or develop science resources for a local school. You can choose a course that includes time overseas at one of our partner universities in Europe, Australia, Singapore, Canada or the USA, or gain invaluable insights into applied chemistry with a year in industry.

We have strong links with many major pharmaceutical companies. Students have recently spent their year in industry working for AstraZeneca, Bayer Crop Science, Croda, GSK and Johnson Matthey, among others. Our teaching laboratories are world class, and we are ranked in the top five institutions for chemistry in the UK (*THE* analysis of REF 2014). We are also home to Bristol ChemLabS, a Centre for Excellence in Teaching and Learning.

Current research work includes finding sustainable solutions for fuelling the cars of the future, making diamond suitable for electronic applications in extreme environments, and developing a way of continuously monitoring glucose in the body. We produce ground-breaking chemistry, so you could be collaborating on a project that has a major impact on future generations.

'The School of Chemistry is amazing, with incredible labs, dedicated lecture theatres and access to high-quality research. I want to go on to a PhD and Bristol's reputation will help me greatly in securing a place.'

Dominic (MSci Chemistry)

What will you study?

We understand that your interests may change and develop as you study at university, so our degree courses are designed to be as flexible as possible. Some courses offer you the possibility of studying abroad or spending a year working in industry, either in the UK or overseas.

We offer a course with a preliminary year of study for academically able students whose qualifications do not enable them to enter directly into the first year of our other courses. Transfer between different Chemistry courses is usually possible until the end of your first year.

The first year of all Chemistry degree courses shares the same structure. You will study an optional subject alongside chemistry, with popular choices including pharmacology, biochemistry, mathematics and physics. We also offer a unit called Big Ideas in Science, in which world-leading scientists from across the Faculty of Science introduce some of the most important developments in their fields. Many students choose to continue their study of a foreign language in their first year or take up a language for the first time.

You will also take units in mathematics and communications skills specifically designed for chemistry students. A basic understanding of mathematics is essential for any scientist, and our Mathematics for Chemists unit will help to support your study of chemistry. Our Communication and Information Skills for Chemists unit will give you the transferable skills that you need to develop as a successful scientist or in the career of your choice.

In subsequent years you will specialise to develop an increasing understanding of organic, inorganic and physical chemistry, as well as having the opportunity to learn more about analytical, theoretical and environmental chemistry. The structure of the final year of our MSci courses allows you to specialise further in areas of chemistry that are of particular interest to you.

Practical work is central to all our Chemistry degrees and Bristol offers you superb lab facilities. Our world-class teaching laboratories are of a standard that you would expect to find in a research environment. We have also developed an innovative online Dynamic Laboratory Manual, which includes virtual instruments, simulations of experiments and video clips to help you prepare for your laboratory work.

The final year of all MSci Chemistry degree courses includes a research project in which you will work with a member of academic staff and their research team on a current problem in chemistry. For most students this is the highlight of their undergraduate studies, and many have had their work published in internationally renowned chemistry journals. The final year of our BSc Chemistry course also includes a project, with options to work in a research laboratory or even in a local primary or secondary school, helping to develop science resources or carrying out chemistry education research.

Assessment is primarily through examination, although practical work and some coursework is continually assessed. This gives you time to think about the subjects that you are studying without having to worry about regular assessment deadlines.



'Under the supervision of my personal tutor, I spent the summer using nuclear magnetic resonance to elucidate organic molecular structures. There are very few places in the world where I could experience this first hand.'

Sean (MSci Chemistry)



Careers and graduate destinations

The University of Bristol has an excellent reputation with employers. Companies and organisations in many areas of industry and the public sector employ chemists for their technical knowledge and expert scientific understanding.

Many of our graduates enjoy chemistry so much that they stay on to do research here or at other universities across the world. Others move directly into jobs in other areas of science, from biotechnology and pharmaceuticals to petrochemicals and nanotechnology.

Employers in other sectors value the transferable skills that chemistry graduates possess. Chemists are trained to solve problems, have excellent literacy and numeracy skills, and are good at working both independently and as part of a team. In recent years, our graduates have moved into careers in law, management, business, finance, marketing, accountancy, journalism and the media.

The University of Bristol has one of the best employment records in the UK. We are rated sixth in the UK in the QS Graduate Employability Rankings 2018 and are the fourth most targeted university by top UK graduate employers (High Fliers Research 2018).



Making your application

Typical offer for BSc Chemistry*

Visit bristol.ac.uk/ug19-chemistry for other qualifications.

A-levels AAB (contextual ABC[†]) including A in Chemistry and B in Mathematics.

IB Diploma 34 points overall (contextual 31[†]) with 17 at Higher Level (contextual 15[†]), including 6 at Higher Level in Chemistry and either 5 at Higher Level or 7 at Standard Level in Mathematics.

English Language profile C^{††}

GCSEs Standard literacy requirement (C in GCSE English or equivalent).

[†]For information on contextual offers, visit bristol.ac.uk/contextual-offers.

^{††}For details of English language profiles, visit bristol.ac.uk/ug-language-requirements.

Selection UCAS or Common Application.

*The typical offer is indicative only and the University accepts a wide range of qualifications. The information is correct at the time of printing (June 2018); however, we recommend you check the University's website for the most up-to-date information: bristol.ac.uk/ug-study.

When preparing your application, think about which areas of chemistry interest you most. Tell us about the topics in your course that you particularly enjoy. Which applications of chemistry do you find interesting? We would also like to hear about the project work or experiments that you have been doing. Have you been to any university taster days or scientific lectures or demonstrations? We don't expect all our applicants to have had the chance of work experience in a scientific discipline, but if you have been fortunate enough to do so, we would like to hear about it.

A strong background in mathematics is important for any scientist and we will require you to have an A-level or equivalent in the subject.

Further information

Find out more about the School of Chemistry: bristol.ac.uk/chemistry.

More general information about studying chemistry and careers for chemistry graduates is available from the Royal Society of Chemistry's website: www.rsc.org.

To find out more about Fusion, the University of Bristol's Chemistry Society, visit: bristolsu.org.uk/activities/societies.

Contact us

Enquiries Team

Tel +44 (0)117 394 1649

Email choosebristol-ug@bristol.ac.uk

If you have any questions about courses, applications or any aspect of being a UK or international student at Bristol please contact the Enquiries Team.

Accommodation Office

Tel +44 (0)117 954 6640

Email accom-office@bristol.ac.uk

bristol.ac.uk/accommodation

Disability Services

Tel +44 (0)117 331 0444

Email disability-services@bristol.ac.uk

bristol.ac.uk/disability-services

University guide to the city of Bristol

bristol.ac.uk/citybristol

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Tel +44 (0)117 394 1573

Email ug-publications@bristol.ac.uk

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Dave Pratt, Dan Rowley

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