Looking for a career that is expanding and exciting? In today’s society, the increasing interplay between technology and the economy is the keystone for the growth of many businesses and industries. UW-Eau Claire’s chemistry with business emphasis major combines studies in those two key areas.

Major

Comprehensive major (no minor required)
- Chemistry - Business

Where you'll find our grads

- Purchasing Manager, EMCO Chemical Distributors, North Chicago, IL
- Sales, Stepan Company, Chicago, IL
- Quality Assurance, Nestle, Eau Claire, WI
- Purchaser, 3M, Minneapolis, MN
- Buyer, Emerson Process Management, Roseville, MN
- Quality Assurance Auditor, Covance, Madison, WI
- Customer Service, Brenntag Great Lakes, Milwaukee, WI

- Sales, Hydrite Chemical, Milwaukee, WI
- Ingredient Manager, Nestle Nutrition, Eau Claire, WI

Prepared for Success

The combination of technical and business expertise is especially attractive to industrial employers. Our graduates will work on headline issues such as the comparison between traditional and alternative fuels, production and costs of pharmaceuticals, and the environmentally appropriate treatment of hazardous waste.

The UW-Eau Claire chemistry with business emphasis program will prepare you for non-laboratory careers in the chemical industry including product development, business development, sales, marketing research, technical service and manufacturing. It’s a good preparation for graduate studies in business or for careers in expanding industries such as pharmaceuticals, biotechnology, nanotechnology, electronic materials, petrochemicals, polymers, pollution control, and the production of bio-based fuels and materials. The logic and analytical skills developed in chemistry will enhance your ability to

“The B.S. in chemistry at UWEC provided me with the critical thinking and lab skills necessary to work as a paid summer intern for Univar, a global chemical distributor. The challenging and high-quality chemistry courses prepared me to face whatever problems I might find in the chemical industry.”

— Anna Waller | chemistry liberal arts ’16
Chemistry - Business Emphasis (continued)

find solutions in any field.

Typical positions held by chemistry with business emphasis graduates include technical service engineer, pharmaceutical sales representative, quality control and quality assurance specialists, purchasing agent, business development specialist, marketing specialist, product manager, distribution and transportation manager, regulatory specialist (EPA, FDA, OSHA), laboratory manager, business owner.

At UW-Eau Claire students receive a liberal arts education that will prepare them with the technical expertise needed to be a successful scientist, while also shaping them into a well-rounded professional with skills in communication, problem-solving, and creative thinking.

Why UW-Eau Claire

Internships

Through seminars and internships, upper-division students interact with, and gain valuable and current career experience from people working in the chemical industry and chemical business.

Research Opportunities

The chemistry department has a long tradition of productive collaborative research between undergraduate students and faculty, culminating in published papers in peer-reviewed journals and presentations at regional national and international meetings.

Students also participate in weekly seminars featuring presentations by top researchers. In the fall, speakers from academic institutions come to UW-Eau Claire to speak about opportunities related to graduate school, while in the spring, UWEC hosts industry speakers from companies like Univar, Ecolab, Hydrite Chemical, 3M, Boston Scientific, Nestle USA, etc.

Innovative Facilities

The chemistry department has a comprehensive suite of instrumentation for the isolation and characterization of chemical substances. Most instruments are shared with all members of the department, with our primary users being undergraduate students, both in courses and in carrying out collaborative research outside of the classroom. Additionally, there are a number of specialized research instruments (including an X-ray diffractometer, optical cryostats and a jet-cooled expansion system) that serve the needs of specific faculty projects. In addition, several chemistry faculty are major users of high-performance computing resources.

Special Admission Guidelines

Chemical Principles (Chem 115) requires superior preparation in high school chemistry. Successful students have often taken AP chemistry, and/or earned strong grades in high school chemistry, physics, and mathematics. Students who do not have sufficient high school chemistry preparation or who place into a lower level math course should take General Chemistry (Chem 103 and Chem 104) first.

Suggested Freshman Curriculum

- Chemical Principles
- Short Course in Calculus or Calculus Analytic Geometry
- Principles of Microeconomics
- Quantitative Analysis
- Principles of Macroeconomics
- General electives

Course Work / Pre-Professional Courses

Chemistry courses are sequential. Upper-division courses have chemistry, math and physics prerequisites that must be satisfied during the first two years.