

The Chemistry Department provides courses and state-of-the-art laboratory instrumentation to prepare you for careers in industrial or research settings, or future work in graduate and professional schools. You will be taught by a group of PhD-level faculty dedicated to maximizing your undergraduate experience and potential. Class sizes are small, allowing for careful attention to individual student needs.

Discover the elements. From astronomy to zoology, chemistry is the key to all sciences that deal with the structure and behavior of objects and matter.

Internships and research. At St. Ambrose, you will have the opportunity to work with your professors in research beginning in your first year of studies. Summer research opportunities are also available. Internships and research programs are available to assist in the transition from undergraduate study to industry or graduate school.

Choice jobs and graduate programs. Many St. Ambrose University chemistry graduates continue their education by entering graduate programs in chemistry, biochemistry, chemical engineering, the health professions or environmental science. SAU chemistry majors success in getting placements into first-choice jobs, or graduate or professional programs, is nearly 100 percent.

Ambrose Advantages

Extended learning. A number of opportunities for involvement and extended learning are available. For example, experience is available through employment as a tutor or laboratory assistant in our department. Additionally, our majors have the opportunity to participate either in internships or research projects, which offer outstanding introductions to graduate school or jobs in industry.

Award-winning ACS student chapter. Outside of class, students get to know each other through our national award-winning American Chemical Society student chapter. Members of the chapter work on community outreach activities such as presenting chemical demonstrations to school children as part of National Chemistry Week, sponsoring meetings and a research symposium through the local section of the American Chemical Society, and organizing various professional and social events within the department.

Help with assignments and advising. Faculty are very accessible to students on a daily basis. Students often drop by to get help with assignments or for academic advising. Faculty often work “shoulder to shoulder” with students in lab on research projects and help students to present their results at symposia and research conferences.



Career Opportunities

A chemistry degree from St. Ambrose can lead to a great variety of excellent career opportunities in areas such as **industrial research and development, quality control, forensic science, agriculture, environmental studies, or teaching high school chemistry.** The degree can also be a stepping-stone to graduate work in chemistry, chemical engineering, biochemistry and areas such as medicine, pharmacy and other occupations in the health sciences.

St. Ambrose chemistry graduates are successful in finding jobs. In the recent chemistry alumni survey, 98% of respondents indicated that they are employed in a chemistry-related profession. All stated that their undergraduate chemistry education prepared them well for their future, and that they were happy they had attended St. Ambrose.

Career Outlook

- > The median salary for chemists and materials scientists in 2012 was \$73,060. The Bureau of Labor Statistics projects an additional 5,400 jobs in the field through 2022.
- > Biochemists earned a median salary of \$81,480 in 2012. The Bureau of Labor Statistics projects a job growth of 19 percent through 2022.
- > Agricultural and food scientists earned a median salary of \$58,610 in 2012. The Bureau of Labor Statistics projects an additional 3,600 jobs through 2020.
- > The median salary for medical scientists was \$76,980 in 2012. The Bureau of Labor Statistics projects an additional 13,700 will be needed through 2022.

Alumni Success Stories

- > One of our graduates went on to earn medical (MD) and doctoral (PhD) degrees from the University of Iowa. He is now a professor of psychiatry, and a leading research scientist studying chemical factors affecting mental illness.
- > Another graduate has become a top executive—associate commercial director for ventures and business development—with Dow Chemical Company and is involved in managing a number of the company's operations.

Where Some of Our Graduates Are Now

Many of our St. Ambrose graduates pursue advanced degrees in areas including chemistry, medicine, pharmacy, and forensics. Some of our recent alumni are currently enrolled:

- > Creighton University, Pharmacy
- > Indiana University, Chemistry
- > Marian University, Medicine
- > Midwestern University, Occupational Therapy
- > National University of Singapore, Industrial Chemistry
- > Oklahoma State University, Chemistry
- > Southern Illinois University, Medicine
- > University of Illinois at Chicago, Forensics
- > University of Illinois at Chicago, Medicine
- > University of Iowa, Biology
- > University of Iowa, Chemistry

Organizations that employ St. Ambrose chemistry alumni include:

- > Bettendorf (Iowa) High School, Teacher
- > Davenport Police Department, Forensic Lab Technician
- > Exelon Corporation, Associate Chemist
- > Integrated DNA Technologies, Production Specialist

- > John Deere, Electroplating Engineer
- > Oakridge National Laboratory, Postdoctoral Scientist
- > Pain Centers of Iowa, Laboratory Director
- > QC Analytical Services, Chemist
- > Texas State Forensics lab, Forensic Technician

Your Career: Networking, Internships and Jobs in the Quad Cities

The Quad Cities is a welcoming and fun place to live as a college student. And it is much more than that—it offers a great community to help you prepare for, or even start, your career. This area is a leader in business and healthcare, providing a variety of opportunities for graduates in the natural sciences.

Companies such as Alcoa, one of the world's leading producers of aluminum, rely on advances in chemistry. Deere & Company Alcoa, HON, Kone, Modern Woodmen of America and many other companies that span the globe have headquarters, branches or administration centers in the Quad City region.

Natural science graduates serve key roles in local organizations that range from the Putnam Museum of Science and History, to the Quad City Botanical Center, to waterway initiatives all along the Mississippi River, which runs through the region. In addition, students in natural science fields have opportunities for teaching careers in the many fine Quad City public and private schools, as well as four-year colleges and universities throughout the region.

These organizations provide exceptional opportunities for networking, internships and jobs.

Get in Touch With Us Today

We invite you to visit St. Ambrose to learn more about the opportunities here. Our quality academic programs provide one of the best private education values in the Midwest. Check it out for yourself: contact our Admissions Office, 563/333-6300 (toll-free 800/383-2627) or admit@sau.edu, or go online to www.sau.edu.

St. Ambrose University offers a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry degree, and a Bachelor of Arts in Chemistry degree. Pre-med and forensic chemistry concentrations are offered, along with a teaching major and minor in Chemistry. For complete curriculum information and course descriptions, consult the Course Catalog at www.sau.edu/catalog.