

FACT

Many school districts are currently having difficulty hiring qualified science teachers –especially Chemistry teachers.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2012 – 13 Edition

Developing Expertise

In an important field where teachers are consistently in short supply, chemistry teachers help students understand the how and why of the natural and physical environment.

As a chemistry educator, you will guide students toward new knowledge, and the discovery of the logic, simplicity, and design behind complex events in the natural world.

The undergraduate major in Chemistry with Teacher Education Concentration provides you with a strong background in the basic concepts of analytical, organic, physical, and inorganic chemistry for a career in science teaching at the secondary level.

Outstanding Preparation

The program is approved by the Illinois State Board of Education and leads to the initial secondary license, qualifying students to teach chemistry. You may also obtain an endorsement for teaching in middle school.

To be recommended for licensure, you must present evidence of having passed the Test of Academic Proficiency (formerly Basic Skills), Subject-Matter Knowledge, and Assessment of Professional Teaching examinations required by the Illinois Certification Testing System. You must also meet the additional requirements for licensure through approved programs listed in the Teacher Education and Certification section of the GSU catalog.

Unlimited Opportunity

GSU offers a superior educational opportunity at an affordable tuition rate without sacrificing the professional quality of its programs. GSU's outstanding faculty and real-world curriculum prepares you to meet the demands of the future.

For More Information:

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Bachelor of Science in Chemistry – Teacher Education

College of Arts and Sciences

Teacher Licensure

This program is approved by the Illinois State Board of Education and leads to the Initial Secondary License qualifying students to teach chemistry. Students who major in Chemistry with a sequence in Secondary Education may obtain an endorsement that prepares them for teaching in the middle school. Students wishing to pursue this endorsement must take three hours in the psychology of early adolescent development, three hours in curriculum instruction and three hours of methods related to the middle school. Students should contact their advisor for specific course requirements.

To be recommended for an Illinois State Board of Education teaching license, the student must present evidence of having passed the Basic Skills, Subject-Matter Knowledge, and Assessment of Professional Teaching examinations of the Illinois Licensure Testing System.

Students must meet other requirements for licensure through approved programs listed in the Licensure of Teachers and Other School Professionals section in the catalog.

Admission to Chemistry Teacher Education

In addition to meeting all university admission requirements for undergraduate students, applicants must meet the following requirements to continue in the program:

1. have a cumulative GPA of 2.75 or higher in all lower division course work applied to the degree program;
2. submit a word-processed essay not to exceed 300 words explaining why the applicant wishes to be a teacher;
3. submit evidence of having passed the Basic Skills Test of the Illinois Licensure Testing System;
4. submit scores from the ETS Proficiency Profile;
5. complete EDUC-2310 (or equivalent) with a grade of "B" or better; and
6. attend a Secondary Education Orientation.

All candidates for Illinois teacher licensure at GSU are required to submit a criminal background check by Accurate Biometrics prior to their initial field experience in the schools. For more information on this testing and available test sites, visit accuratebiometrics.com. Consult with your advisor for information concerning the related GSU policies and procedures.

Student Progress

The faculty monitors and evaluates student progress continually. The section, Licensure of Teachers and Other School Professionals, in the catalog provides a general description of the standards used to evaluate student progress. A more detailed statement of the standards and processes followed by the secondary education faculty is available in the Secondary Education Undergraduate Student Handbook.

Admission to Student Teaching

Students must apply for admission to student teaching before enrolling in EDUC-4999 Student Teaching: Senior Capstone (12). An application for admission to student teaching must be submitted to the Dir. of Field Experiences in the College of Education. The application must be submitted by November 30 for the fall term and January 31 for the spring term preceding the academic year in which the student intends to teach. Student teaching is not offered in the summer term. This application for student teaching will certify that the student applying has or will have met the following requirements:

1. completed at least 59 hours of general education requirements with a GPA of 2.75 or higher in courses taken at GSU;
2. completed professional education course requirements, except student teaching, including a minimum of 100 clock-hours of field experience with a GPA of 3.0 or higher, with a grade of "C" or better in each course, and EDUC-4330 and EDUC-4340 with a grade of "B" or better;
3. must have completed methods courses no more than two years prior to the commencement of student teaching;
4. have no more than six hours remaining to be completed in the major in which he/she is enrolled with a GPA of 3.0 or higher, completing all courses with a grade of "C" or better;
5. met all state requirements applicable to the subject matter area(s) in which he/she will teach as outlined in Section IX, Staff Qualifications of the ISBE of Education publication, Minimum Requirements for State Licensure;
6. submit evidence of having passed the Chem. Content Area examination of the Illinois Licensure Testing System; and
7. receive a positive recommendation from the Sec. Ed Student Progress Committee.

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Degree Requirements

Students must meet all university requirements for a bachelor's degree within five years of admission to the program. Students must complete the General Education Requirement for Teacher Licensure, Initial Secondary License listed below. Completion of this requirement meets the general education requirement.

In addition, students must:

1. have a cumulative GPA of 2.75 or higher;
2. earn a grade of "C" or better in all general education courses;
3. have a GPA of 2.75 or higher for all general education courses;
4. have a GPA of 3.0 or higher in chemistry, biology, physics and earth science courses with a grade of "C" or better in each course;
5. have a GPA of 3.0 or higher for EDUC-2101, EDUC-3440, and SPED-2100 with a grade of "C" or better in each course;
6. earn a grade of "B" or better in EDUC-2310, EDUC-4330, and EDUC-4340;
7. have earned a grade of "B" or better in EDUC-4999;
8. complete a minimum of 100 clock-hours of supervised pre-student teaching experiences;
9. provide evidence of successful completion of the Illinois and U.S. Constitution examinations;
10. complete at least one three-hour course in non-Western or Third World Cultures;
11. complete eight hours of general chemistry with laboratory with a grade of "B" or better;
12. show evidence of having passed the Assessment of Professional Teaching;
13. meet any additional requirements listed in the Teacher Licensure section of this catalog; and
14. receive a positive recommendation from the Secondary Education Student Progress Committee.

General Education Requirement for Teacher Licensure, Initial Secondary License Chemistry (60 Hours)

The following courses must be taken at the lower-division level:

General Chemistry with Laboratory (8)
Calculus (8)

Additional Courses

The following courses can be taken at either the lower-division or upper-division level and must include at least one three-hour course in non-Western or Third World cultures:

Physics with Laboratory (8)
Written Communication (6)
Oral Communication (3)
American History (3)
Humanities (6)
Fine Arts (3)
U.S. Government (3)
Introduction to Psychology (3)
Health (2)
Biological Foundations (7)

Required Courses (65 Hours)

The following courses can be taken at either the lower-division or upper-division level:

Organic Chemistry with Laboratory (8)
CHEM - 3233 Analytical Chemistry (3)
CHEM - 3234 Analytical Chemistry Laboratory (1)
EDUC - 2310 Foundations of Education (3)
SPED - 2100 Survey of Students w/ Exceptionalities (3)

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The following courses must be taken at the upper-division level:

CHEM - 3135 Chemical Safety (1)
CHEM - 3641 Physical Chemistry I Lecture (3)
CHEM - 3642 Physical Chemistry I Laboratory (1)
CHEM - 3643 Physical Chemistry II Lecture (3)
CHEM - 3644 Physical Chemistry II Laboratory (1)
CHEM - 5145 Environmental Chemistry Lecture (3)
CHEM - 5146 Environmental Chemistry Laboratory (1)
CHEM - 4331 Biochemistry Lecture (3)
CHEM - 4332 Biochemistry Laboratory (1)
EDCP - 2101 Introduction to Educational Technology (3)
EDUC - 3440 Educational Psychology II (3)
EDUC - 4330 Principles of Science Education (3)
EDUC - 4340 Teaching Secondary School Science (3)
EDUC - 4999 Student Teaching: Senior Capstone (12)
PHYS - 1200 Earth and Space Science (3)
STAT - 4219 Statistical Methods (3)

Chemistry Selective (1 Hour)

Select one of the following which may be taken at the upper-division level:

CHEM - 4962 Undergraduate Research Experience (2)
CHEM - 4990 Chemistry Research (1-3)

Total - 126 Hours

2016 – 17 Catalog Year

