Program Description

Introduction
The College of Science and Engineering is committed to the support of students seeking to become science, mathematics and technology educators at all levels. The Science, Mathematics and Technology Education (SMTE) program offers content courses for students seeking K-12 science, mathematics and technology education. SMTE classes are also an integral part of the course work for degrees preparing students for Teacher Certifications. The SMTE program does not offer a degree; rather, degrees leading to Teacher Certification are offered by other Science and Engineering programs and by the College of Education and Human Development. Students seeking to teach in the elementary and secondary schools of Texas must meet degree requirements as well as certification requirements. The requirements and procedure to become a science, mathematics or technology teacher in Texas are outlined below. Undergraduate students who are graduating from the College of Science & Engineering or the College of Liberal Arts who are seeking initial teacher certification at the 4-8, 7-12 and EC-12 levels prior to graduation, automatically qualify for the Minor in Education.

How to Become a Science, Mathematics or Technology Teacher in Texas
In order to be recommended for teacher certification at this university, a candidate must fulfill three basic requirements:

1. have a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university that includes an academic major and teacher training courses,
2. complete teacher training through an approved program, and
3. successfully complete the appropriate teacher certification tests for the subject and grade level that the candidate wishes to teach.

Additional information on the requirements to become a teacher in Texas can be obtained at the State Board of Educator Certification (SBEC) website: http://www.sbec.state.tx.us/SBECOnline/certinfo/becometeacher.asp. This website also provides information on the resources available to help students pay for a teacher training program.

SBEC has approved three levels of teacher certification for regular educators:

1. Early childhood to grade 6 which includes foundation subjects and enrichment areas such as art, PE, and music,
2. Grade 4-8 which includes the foundation areas only, and
3. Grade 7-12 certification.

Students can find information on the different certifications at the official Texas Examinations of Educator Standards (TExES) Web site: http://www.texas.ets.org. Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi offers several degrees leading to a number of these teacher certifications. The College of Education and Human Development offers several degrees leading to teacher certification. The College of Science and Engineering offers bachelor's degrees leading to teacher certification in the sciences, mathematics and technology at the 4-8 and the 7-12 levels:

- Biology, BS - Grades 7-12 Life Science Education Concentration (http://catalog.tamucc.edu/undergraduate/science-engineering/bachelors/biology-bs-grades-7-12-life-science-education-concentration/) (120-122 sem. hrs.)
- Chemistry, BS - Grades 7-12 Physical Science Education Concentration (126-128 sem. hrs.) Details immediately follow below.
- Environmental Science, BS - Grades 4-8 Science Education Concentration (http://catalog.tamucc.edu/undergraduate/science-engineering/bachelors/environmental-science-bs-grades-4-8-science-education-concentration/) (125-130 sem. hrs.)
- Elementary Education, BS - Grades 4-8 with Mathematics Certification (http://catalog.tamucc.edu/undergraduate/science-engineering/teaching-certificates/elementary-education-bs-grades-4-8-mathematics-certification/) (College of Education and Human Development)
- Mathematics, BS - Grades 7-12 Mathematics Education Concentration (http://catalog.tamucc.edu/undergraduate/science-engineering/bachelors/mathematics-bs-grades-7-12-education-concentration/) (120 sem. hrs.)

Mathematics 7-12 teacher certification is also possible with an undergraduate major other than mathematics. Details can be found in the Mathematics, Grades 7-12 Teacher Certification Without a Mathematics Major (http://catalog.tamucc.edu/undergraduate/science-engineering/teaching-certificates/mathematics-grades-7-12-teacher-certification-without-major/) section.

The individual programs, Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Environmental Science, and Mathematics offer these degrees and courses.

Students seeking Teacher Certification are also strongly urged to contact the Certification Officer in the College of Education and Human Development about current requirements and procedures that must be met to obtain the certificate. In particular, students following a degree plan leading to teacher certification must be admitted to the Teacher Education Program at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi prior to enrolling in any 4000 level EDCI or EDUC courses. Application forms for admission to the teacher education program may be obtained from the Undergraduate or Certification Office, room FC 201. The students are referred to the College of Education and Human Development section of this catalog for more information on the Teacher Education Program.

Grade Point Average for Admission to Teacher Education
A minimum grade point average of 2.75 (4.0 = A) in all work attempted, a minimum grade point average of 2.75 in all science, math, or specialization areas, and no grade below “C” in any science or mathematics course on a student's degree plan and/or education courses within the professional block of courses are required. (See College of Education and Human Development, “Admission to Teacher Education” and “Admission to Student Teaching” for other requirements.)

Alteration of a Certification Plan
Any amendment to a degree plan originally filed must be approved by the student’s academic advisor, the Department Chair, the Dean of the College of Science and Engineering, and the Certification Officer of the College of Education and Human Development for the degree to be granted.

General Requirements
The Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry with a Physical Science Education concentration is designed for those planning to teach...
Program Requirements

**Full-time, First-year Students**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNIV 1101</td>
<td>First-Year Seminar I</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNIV 1102</td>
<td>First-Year Seminar II</td>
<td>1</td>
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**Core Curriculum Program**

University Core Curriculum  

[Core Curriculum Program](http://catalog.tamucc.edu/undergraduate/university-college/programs/core-curriculum-program/)

Students choosing a physical science education concentration must take THE FOLLOWING as part of their core curriculum requirements:

- MATH 2413: Calculus I
- MATH 2414: Calculus II
- PHYS 2425: University Physics I
- PHYS 2426: University Physics II
- PSYC 2301: General Psychology

**Special Foundations for Physical Science Education Concentration**

- PHYS 2425: University Physics I (included in University Core)
- PHYS 2426: University Physics II (included in University Core)
- MATH 2413: Calculus I (included in University Core)
- MATH 2414: Calculus II (included in University Core)
- MATH 3315: Differential Equations

**Chemistry Major for Physical Science Education Concentration**

- CHEM 1411: General Chemistry I
- CHEM 1412: General Chemistry II
- CHEM 3411: Organic Chemistry I
- CHEM 3412: Organic Chemistry II
- CHEM 3417: Quantitative Analysis
- CHEM 3418: Instrumental Analysis
- CHEM 4401: Biochemistry I
- CHEM 4443: Environmental Chemistry
- CHEM 4423: Physical Chemistry I
- PHYS 3334: Modern Physics I
- SMTE 4217: Secondary Approaches to the Life Sciences
- SMTE 4270: Science Education Topics I
- SMTE 4320: Secondary Science Laboratory Techniques

**Electives**

- BIOL 1406: Biology I
- BIOL 1407: Biology II
- One 3 hour English course 2000-level or higher

**Professional Development Sequence**

**Preliminary Courses**

- READ 3353: Content Area Reading for Secondary Students
- EDUC 3311: School and Society

**Field-Based Semester**

- EDUC 4405: Planning, Teaching, Assessment and Technology
- EDUC 4321: Instructional Design for Special Populations

**Student Teaching Semester**

- EDUC 4311: Classroom Management
- EDUC 4995: Clinical Teaching

**Total Hours**: 131

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1. Students entering with some college credit may not be required to take one or both of the First-Year Seminar courses (see the “First-Year Seminar” section of the Core Curriculum Program for rules and exceptions concerning these courses).

2. Fifteen of these hours are used to fulfill the University Core Curriculum science and mathematics requirements.

3. To become certified to teach, a total of 9 sem. hrs. of English are required. Six of these hours are taken in the University Core Curriculum Program: ENGL 1302 Writing and Rhetoric (3 sch) and the required 3 sem. hr. literature course (ENGL 2316 Literature and Culture (3 sch), ENGL 2332 Literature of the Western World: From the Classics to the Renaissance (3 sch), or ENGL 2333 Literature of the Western World: From the Enlightenment to the Present (3 sch) - see above). The Texas Education Agency also requires one additional 3 semester credit hour English course (2000-level or higher) to meet certification requirements.

   • Online offering
   • Blended offering

**Professional Development Sequence**

Students who seek an 7-12 level Physical Science teaching certificate should contact a Certification Officer in the College of Education and Human Development about requirements and procedures that must be met to obtain the certificate. The professional development sequence must be taken in a specific order and it is recommended that students contact the College of Education and Human Development early in their academic careers for specific details on these courses.
Courses

CHEM 1305  Introductory Chemistry
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
A ONE-SEMESTER PRINCIPLES COURSE FOR STUDENTS IN NON-SCIENCE RELATED MAJORS COVERING THE MAJOR CONCEPTS OF CHEMISTRY (ATOMIC STRUCTURE, BONDING, STOICHIOMETRY, ELEMENTARY THERMODYNAMICS) AND THE ROLE OF CHEMISTRY IN CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY (POLYMERS, ENERGY, POLLUTION, ETC.). WILL NOT SUBSTITUTE FOR CHEM 1411.

TCCNS: CHEM 1305

CHEM 1411  General Chemistry I
4 Semester Credit Hours (4 Lecture Hours)
The foundation course in chemistry. Stoichiometry, chemical equilibria, atomic structure, chemical bonding, periodic properties, thermodynamics, chemical kinetics, and descriptive chemistry of the elements. Laboratory involves development of basic skills. This course counts toward the natural science component of the university core curriculum. Either CHEM 1305 - Introductory Chemistry or CHEM 1411, but not both, may be applied toward the core requirement. This course is offered in fall, spring and typically during both summer sessions.

Prerequisite: CHEM 1411. Co-requisite: SMTE 0093.

TCCNS: CHEM 1411

CHEM 1412  General Chemistry II
4 Semester Credit Hours (4 Lecture Hours)
The continuation of CHEM 1411 - General Chemistry I*, the foundation course in chemistry with emphasis on quantitative aspects. Laboratory involves development of basic skills. This course counts toward the natural science component of the university core curriculum. Prerequisite: CHEM 1411 - General Chemistry I* and MATH 1314 - College Algebra or equivalent math competency. This course is offered in fall, spring and typically both summer sessions.

Prerequisite: CHEM 1411 and MATH 1314. Co-requisite: SMTE 0093.

TCCNS: CHEM 1412

CHEM 2490  Special Topics
4 Semester Credit Hours (4 Lecture Hours)
May be repeated for credit. Subject materials variable. Offered on sufficient demand.

CHEM 3411  Organic Chemistry I
4 Semester Credit Hours (4 Lecture Hours)
The structure, nomenclature, synthesis, reactions, and reaction mechanisms of the principal classes of organic compounds. Stereochemistry and spectroscopy of organic compounds. Laboratory involves separation and synthetic techniques and development of basic skills. This course is offered in fall, spring and typically during the summer I session.

Prerequisite: CHEM 1411. Co-requisite: SMTE 0093.

CHEM 3412  Organic Chemistry II
4 Semester Credit Hours (4 Lecture Hours)
A continuation of CHEM 3411. The course concludes with a survey of the structures of biomolecules. Laboratory involves spectroscopy and qualitative analysis techniques. This course is offered in fall, spring and typically during the summer II session.

Prerequisite: CHEM 3411. Co-requisite: SMTE 0093.

CHEM 3417  Quantitative Analysis
4 Semester Credit Hours (4 Lecture Hours)
A course in quantitative analysis, which includes chemical statistics and the use of acid-base, complexation, precipitation, and redox reactions to perform analyses and separations. Laboratory includes standard volumetric and gravimetric methods and development of basic quantitative techniques. This course is typically offered in spring.

Prerequisite: CHEM 1412. Co-requisite: SMTE 0093.

CHEM 3418  Instrumental Analysis
4 Semester Credit Hours (4 Lecture Hours)
An introduction to instrumental methods of analysis: spectroscopy, chromatography, and electrochemical methods. Laboratory involves use of instrumentation in chemical analysis. This course is typically offered in fall and spring.

Prerequisite: CHEM 1412. Co-requisite: SMTE 0093.

CHEM 4085  Major Field Test in Chemistry
0 Semester Credit Hours
The major field test (MFT) in chemistry is a national examination given in the fall and spring semesters only. It is a graduation requirement for all chemistry students. Students enroll in this course during the semester that they plan to take the MFT. There is no cost to the student for either this course or for the MFT.

CHEM 4292  Senior Chemistry Seminar
2 Semester Credit Hours (2 Lecture Hours)
Presentation and discussion of selected topics in chemistry. Includes literature searches and reviews, paper presentations, survey of professional opportunities and requirements, career guidance and job searching skills.

CHEM 4309  Advanced Instrumental Analysis
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
An advanced course in analytical chemistry covering the underlying theories of instrumental methods. This course is typically offered on an irregular basis.

Prerequisite: (CHEM 3411, 3412 and 3418).

CHEM 4320  Drugs, Toxins and Natural Products Chemistry
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
The chemistry and biological activity of pharmaceuticals, toxins, and selected natural products. Examines how chemical structure relates to biological activity. Also examines action of antibiotics, chemotherapy agents, analgesics, steroids, and compounds targeting the central and peripheral nervous system. This course is typically offered in fall and spring.

Prerequisite: CHEM 4401.
**CHEM 4344 Chemical Oceanography**  
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)  
The study of the oceans and seas as a chemical system, including interactions with both the biota and the solid earth. This course is typically offered in spring.  
Prerequisite: CHEM 1412.

**CHEM 4350 Polymer Chemistry**  
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)  
An advanced lecture course in organic chemistry. Characterization of polymers. Polymerization mechanisms. Current research directions such as biomedical applications and electroactive polymers. This course is offered on an irregular basis.  
Prerequisite: CHEM 3412.

**CHEM 4401 Biochemistry I**  
4 Semester Credit Hours (4 Lecture Hours)  
The structure and function of carbohydrates, lipids, proteins, and nucleic acids. An introduction to enzyme kinetics, cell membrane structure and biochemical signaling. Laboratory exercises demonstrate the basic principles and techniques used in biochemistry. This course is typically offered in fall, spring and summer.  
Prerequisite: CHEM 3412 and (BIOL 1406 and 1407).  
Co-requisite: SMTE 0093.

**CHEM 4402 Biochemistry II**  
4 Semester Credit Hours (4 Lecture Hours)  
A continuation of CHEM 4401. Biochemical energetics, including glycolysis, fatty acid oxidation, amino acid oxidation, citric acid cycle, oxidative phosphorylation, photophosphorylation and photosynthesis. Carbohydrate, fatty acid and amino acid biosynthesis. Laboratory is a continuation of biochemical techniques. This course is typically offered in fall and spring.  
Prerequisite: CHEM 4401.  
Co-requisite: SMTE 0093.

**CHEM 4407 Advanced Inorganic Chemistry**  
4 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours, 3 Lab Hours)  
A survey of inorganic chemistry. Theories of atomic structure, covalent bonding, ionic solids, metallic solids, and coordination compounds. Modern acid-base concepts. Laboratory involves the synthesis of inorganic compounds.  
Prerequisite: CHEM 3412.  
Co-requisite: SMTE 0093.

**CHEM 4420 Physical Biochemistry**  
4 Semester Credit Hours (4 Lecture Hours)  
A fundamental approach to the study of physical and chemical phenomena, including the study of thermodynamics, gases and phase equilibria. This course is typically offered on an irregular basis.  
Prerequisite: CHEM 1412 and (PHYS 1402 or 2426) and MATH 2414.  
Co-requisite: SMTE 0093.

**CHEM 4423 Physical Chemistry I**  
4 Semester Credit Hours (4 Lecture Hours)  
A fundamental approach to the study of physical and chemical phenomena, including the study of thermodynamics, gases and phase equilibria. This course is typically offered in fall.  
Prerequisite: CHEM 1412 and (PHYS 1402 or 2426) and MATH 2414.  
Co-requisite: SMTE 0093.

**CHEM 4424 Physical Chemistry II**  
4 Semester Credit Hours (4 Lecture Hours)  
A continuation of CHEM 4423, including the study of chemical kinetics, electrochemistry, molecular structure, and quantum mechanics. This course is typically offered in spring.  
Prerequisite: CHEM 4423.  
Co-requisite: SMTE 0093.

**CHEM 4443 Environmental Chemistry**  
4 Semester Credit Hours (4 Lecture Hours)  
A study of the impact of chemistry on the environment, including topics of air pollution, water pollution, and beneficial chemical modifications of the environment. Laboratory devoted to field techniques of sampling, sample preservation, and analytical techniques applied to the environment. This course is typically offered in spring.  
Prerequisite: CHEM 1412 and 3411.  
Co-requisite: SMTE 0093.

**CHEM 4696 Directed Independent Study**  
1-6 Semester Credit Hours  
Requires a formal proposal of study to be completed in advance of registration, to be approved by the supervising faculty, the chairperson and the dean of the college.