

Course Planning Specifics: Biochemistry

Students considering biochemistry as a major should make sure that by the end of the first year, that they have completed the chemistry sequence (CH 1010-1040), and the calculus sequence (MA 1021-1024), and some biology. This can be through a combination of AP or transfer credit, as well as WPI courses. [Click here](#) for the degree requirements for Biochemistry.

CH 1010 - CH 1030 rigorously cover topics that are commonly found in high school chemistry classes, however the pace and depth of these topics is significantly enhanced. The laboratory components of these courses are extensive and project-oriented. Consider taking these courses even if you have AP credit for chemistry. A solid working understanding of the material, especially the laboratory techniques, is a key part of the skills necessary to become a biochemist. AP credit will be limited to CH 1010 only. CH 1040 (offered D term) is highly recommended and provides advanced topics in general chemistry intended for majors.

Since biochemists work at the interface of chemistry and biology, a background in biology is also essential. For those students who have had biology in high school, we recommend taking Cell Biology ([BB 2550](#)) and Genetics ([BB 2920](#)) in the first year. For those students who have no biology background, BB 1035-Intro to Biotechnology should be taken first.

Additional courses can be selected from the Humanities, Great Problems Seminars, and Social Sciences. For students who receive AP credit for chemistry we recommend taking a Great Problems Seminar in place of the chemistry courses.

Example of a typical course schedule for your first two terms

<u>A term</u>	<u>B term</u>
CH1010	CH1020
GPS/HU/SS/BB	GPS/HU/SS/BB
MA	MA
PE (optional)	PE (optional)

Course Planning Worksheet: Biochemistry

Math Placement Test Result: _____ AP/IB/Transfer Credit: _____

Abbreviation Key for Course Planning Tracker:

- **GPS** = Great Problems Seminar
- **HU**= Humanities Course (includes AB, AR, CN, EN, GN, HI, HU, INTL, ISE, MU, PY, RE, SP, TH, WR)
- **SS** = Social Science Course (includes ECON, ENV, GOV, PSY, SD, SOC, SS)
- **BB** = Biology Course
- **PH**= Physics Course
- **CH**= Chemistry Course

Any courses marked with an asterisk (*) are optional programs, and can be taken in addition to the three courses.

Please Note: The Great Problems Seminars are a two term sequence course. They are also **linked**. This means that when registering for a GPS course in A term, you must register for its second half in B term.

<u>A Term Selections</u>		<u>B Term Selections</u>	
	<u>(Include CRN)</u>		<u>(Include CRN)</u>
CH1010		CH1020	
Math		Math	
GPS, HU, SS, BB		GPS, HU, SS, BB	
*Physical Education (1/12 credit unit)		*Physical Education (1/12 credit unit)	
*Military Science (Must be affiliated with an ROTC unit)		*Military Science (Must be affiliated with an ROTC unit)	
Back-ups		Back-ups	