The Chemistry Department at Elon offers an engaging, challenging and rewarding curriculum geared toward postgraduate success in graduate school, professional school or professional work.

Professors with a focus on educating eager and open minds

Chemistry faculty members regularly attend and make presentations at national and international conferences on undergraduate education in chemistry.

Two chemistry department faculty members are developing textbooks focused on novel approaches to teaching upper-level courses.

They mentor undergraduate research projects devoted to developing inquiry-based experiments that will allow general chemistry students participate in the laboratory course as scientists rather than passively following a set of instructions.

The department dedicates one section of general chemistry class and two sections of laboratory to exploring innovative teaching in the discipline.

The department shelters chapters of the chemistry honor society Phi Lambda Upsilon, the Student Affiliates of the American Chemical Society and the Iota Sigma Pi Women Chemist’s honor society.

Students and faculty continuously engaged in novel, noteworthy scholarship

In the past five years, more than $275,000 in funding (internal and external) awarded to support mentored undergraduate research.

In the past five years, students and faculty made more than 30 research presentations at professional regional, national and international conferences; several of these pursuits resulted in peer-reviewed publications with student co-authors.

Chemistry/biochemistry faculty members are recognized institutionally as scholars and mentors, and have served as:
- Rawls Professor for Undergraduate Research (2001)
- Hook Emerging Scholar (2009)
- Elon Senior Faculty Research Fellow (2010)

Chemistry/biochemistry student researchers are recognized institutionally; in the past five years:
- More than 40 chemistry and biochemistry majors participated in undergraduate research experiences (both on- and off-campus)
- Eight Lumen Prizes were awarded to chemistry/biochemistry majors
- More than $15,000 in research and travel grants awarded to chemistry/biochemistry majors

The department enjoys dedicated laboratories for undergraduate research and a wealth of high-quality instrumentation for hands-on use by students.

Successful graduates

In the past five years, of the 69 chemistry graduates in chemistry/biochemistry:
- 20% went on to graduate schools
- 12% went on to health-related professional schools
- 35% are employed in the chemical/biochemical profession
- 7% opted to engage in service activities before continuing their education.