

General Information

For intended Chemistry majors, a typical first semester program consists of CHEM 131 or CHEM 171, depending on the student's interest and preparation; MTH 161, with advice from the mathematics department; a writing course as recommended by the College Writing Program; and an elective. CHEM 131, General Chemistry, and CHEM171, honors Organic Chemistry, are both appropriate for students intending to major in Chemistry. CHEM 137 is also available in the fall semester and is an introduction to general chemistry specifically for engineering students whose majors require a single semester of chemistry. Students anticipating a major in chemistry are encouraged to meet with a faculty advisor from the department during First-Year year in order to explore the individual student's needs and tactics for preparation for a possible major in chemistry.

1. Advanced Placement (AP) Course Placement Methods

Students who have received the following scores on an advanced high-school course are entitled to credit for CHEM 131 and have several options available: **AP exam** score of 4 or 5; **IB higher-level (HL)** score of 6 or higher; **Cambridge A-level** score of A; **CBSE** score >90%; **HSC** score of A or higher. Students may:

- 1) **Accept the AP credit for CHEM 131** and apply for admission to enroll in CHEM 171 First-Year Organic Chemistry (This option allows students to skip CHEM 132 in the Spring, take Organic Chemistry their first year with a smaller cohort, and fast tracks students to more advanced chemistry courses and the fulfillment of degree requirements in other disciplines.)
- 2) **Accept the AP credit for CHEM 131, and not take chemistry in the fall semester, with subsequent enrollment in CHEM 132 in the spring semester, or**
- 3) **Waive this AP credit and enroll in CHEM 131 in the Fall**

The Department expects that some students will select each of these options, depending on their preparation in chemistry and their future interests.

Courses

The chemistry department offers three courses for entering First-Year **CHEM 131 (Chemical Concepts, Systems and Practices I)**, **CHEM 137 (Chemical Principles for Engineers)**, and **CHEM 171 (First-Year Organic Chemistry)**. CHEM 131 and CHEM 171 are appropriate for students majoring in chemistry. CHEM 137 is for students majoring in one of the Engineering majors that only requires one semester of Chemistry. Two sections of CHEM 131 are offered, and both sections are of comparable difficulty and cover the same general topics. CHEM 171 is an honors course on organic chemistry that is available to First-Year students with high scores on AP or international exams (see above). Students should select the course that

