Biochemistry, MS

To become successful in an increasingly post-disciplinary scientific world, you'll want to learn to solve biological problems with molecular tools. This program, with its unique emphasis on structure, properties and synthesis from the molecular perspective in a biological context, allows you to tackle complex challenges in and out of the lab.

Program Description

**Degree Awarded:** MS Biochemistry

Students earning an MS degree in biochemistry in the School of Molecular Sciences are trained in the fundamental aspects of the discipline, but most also choose to learn by joining transdisciplinary teams that work on larger, mission-based contemporary problems in areas such as:

- biogeochemistry
- energy and sustainability
- fundamental chemical biology
- materials and nanoscience
- medicine and health
- structure function and dynamics

The master's degree program in biochemistry provides students with the training they need to solve biological problems at the molecular scale and to contribute to research in current challenging societal issues.

At a Glance

- **College/School:** The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
- **Location:** Tempe campus
Degree Requirements

30 credit hours and a thesis

500-level or above courses as approved by the school (12)
BCH 501 or CHM 501 Seminar or other seminar course as approved by the school (4)
BCH 592 Research courses (8)
BCH 599 Thesis (6)

Additional Curricular Information
The program consists of coursework and seminars selected by the student in consultation with the student's supervisory committee and based on the student's area of research. A written thesis is required and must be successfully defended during a public final oral defense. Students must maintain a minimum GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") or better.

A program fee in the amount of $300 per semester is required in addition to the normal tuition costs.

Admission Requirements

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a bachelor's or master's degree in chemistry, biochemistry or a closely related field from a regionally accredited institution.

Applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 hours of their first bachelor's degree program, or applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in an applicable master's degree program.

All applicants must submit:

1. graduate admission application and application fee
2. official transcripts
3. personal statement
4. three letters of recommendation
5. proof of English proficiency

Additional Application Information
An applicant whose native language is not English must provide proof of English proficiency regardless of current residency.

Application Deadlines
Career Opportunities

Professionals with training achieved in pursuit of a graduate degree in chemistry or biochemistry have opportunities in five general areas: industry (R&D, quality control), academia (high school and higher education), government (research, policy), nonprofit (policy, public education), and entrepreneurship (consulting, start-ups). In addition to specialized technical skills, graduates possess high-demand skills like critical thinking, teamwork and collaboration, time management and many others.

Some career examples include:

- chemistry lecturer
- drug discovery scientist
- government scientist
- high school teacher
- pharmacology scientist
- research and development scientist
- science consultant

The American Chemical Society also provides helpful resources and a more exhaustive list of possible careers on their website at https://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/careers/chemical-sciences.html.

Contact Information

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