

# Options and Minors for Biochemistry Majors @ Virginia Tech



If you look at the “Sample Schedule for Biochemistry Majors”, there are approximately 35 University Core/Elective credits that are not dictated by the biochemistry degree requirements. Students will need to fill these elective credits with courses of their choosing in order to complete their Curriculum for Liberal Education (CLE; <https://www.pathways.prov.vt.edu/cle.html>) requirements and to reach the 120 credits (at least) required by the university to graduate. Many Biochemistry majors choose to pursue minors or second majors in order to fulfill these credit requirements.

## Minors

Most minors at Virginia Tech require between 18-21 credits of coursework (though some require many more). Through the prescribed Biochemistry major course requirements, our students earn a minor in Chemistry (CHEM) without taking any additional courses—they only need to fill out and turn in a form!

Other common minors that our students pursue include:

- Medicine and Society (MSOC)
- Science, Engineering and Law (SELW)
- Sociology (SOC)
- Animal and Poultry Sciences (APSC)
- Food Science and Technology (FST)
- Entomology (ENT)
- Psychology (PSYC)
- Computer Science (CS)
- Business Leadership (BLC)
- International Studies (IS)

There are over 135 minor options to explore, and your academic advisor would be more than happy to help you fit one into your schedule! Look at all of the options here: <https://registrar.vt.edu/graduation-multi-brief/checksheets/minors/index.html>

## Second Majors

Students in Biochemistry also have the opportunity to pursue second majors either as a double major or as a second degree. Students double majoring must complete the requirements for both majors within the same term. When they graduate, these students receive a diploma for their primary major (degree) and a double major certificate for their secondary major (double major). Students going for a second degree must also complete the requirements for both majors, but need to reach 150 credits in order to graduate. They may complete the second degree requirements in a later term. When they graduate, these students receive a separate diploma for each degree.

Currently, our students are pursuing second majors in:

- Chemistry (B.A. or B.S.)
- Psychology (B.S.)
- Biological Sciences (B.S.)
- Microbiology (B.S.)
- Nanoscience (B.S.)
- Clinical Neuroscience (B.S.)
- Human, Nutrition, Foods and Exercise (B.S.)
- Human Development (B.S.)
- Systems Biology (B.S.)
- Animal and Poultry Sciences (B.S.)
- Spanish (B.A.)
- Theater Arts (B.F.A.)
- Religion and Culture (B.A.)
- Criminology (B.S.)
- Political Science (B.A.)
- Chemical Engineering (B.S.)
- Cognitive and Behavioral Neuroscience (B.S.)
- Classical Studies (B.A.)
- Engineering Science and Mechanics (B.S.)
- Materials Science and Engineering (B.S.)

There are over 100 majors to explore, and your academic advisor would be more than happy to help you fit one into your schedule! Look at all of the options here: <https://registrar.vt.edu/graduation-multi-brief/checksheets/az/checksheets-alphabetically.html>

If you have any questions about coursework or adding a minor or a major to your Biochemistry degree, please contact:

David Lally  
Academic and Student  
Support Advisor  
Department of Biochemistry  
(540) 231-9524  
[dlally@vt.edu](mailto:dlally@vt.edu)

Molly Wilson  
Academic and Student  
Support Advisor  
Department of Biochemistry  
(540) 231-8734  
[mollywilson@vt.edu](mailto:mollywilson@vt.edu)