

Chemistry Course Planning: What to take after BC3231x (Organic II)?

If you are not a chemistry or biochemistry major and you wish complete two years of chemistry (one of General and one of Organic):

CHEM BC3232y Intermediate General Chemistry (lecture)

- This course is specifically designed to cap the two-year sequence for students preparing for the health professions. It is a 3-credit lecture course which meets MWF 10-11 and does not have a lab (more below). You are not permitted to take CHEM BC2002y *General Chemistry II*. (CHEM 2002y is a lower-level course that is part of a one-year sequence, and includes an introduction to organic chemistry, so you have advanced beyond that.)
- Note on CHEM BC3232y: From time to time, students taking Barnard's pre-medical sequence ask how our two-year curriculum compares to the more common one of a year of General Chemistry followed by a year of Organic. We feel that our sequence, especially the final course, CHEM BC3232y, serves both pre-medical students and biology students well. After a year of organic chemistry, many of the topics usually included in second semester General Chemistry can be treated in a more interesting and sophisticated way. Moreover, some topics included in Chemistry BC3232y are specifically selected to meet the needs and interests of both pre-medical students and biology students. One measure of the course's success is that, based on statistics of Barnard students taking the Medical College Admissions Test in recent years, those who took Chemistry BC3232y scored on average almost one point higher on a scale of 15, than those who took a different course sequence.
- Lab: CHEM 3232y students who wish to take a related lab course may enroll in **CHEM BC3338y Quantitative and Instrumental Techniques**. This 3-credit lab meets one afternoon per week, (T or R) and has a one-hour weekly lecture, T 1-2.
- Chemistry minor: The four semesters of general and organic chemistry, along with the two second-year laboratory courses, BC3333x (Organic) and BC3338y (Quantitative Analysis), constitute a **minor in chemistry**.

Other courses of interest

- **CHEM BC 3282y Biological Chemistry (lecture)**. Students who have completed organic chemistry and intro biology may take this 3.5-credit lecture course (MWF 9-10, W 12-1). Some medical schools now recommend that students take undergraduate biochemistry in addition to general and organic.
- **CHEM BC 3280y Advanced Organic Chemistry (lecture)**. Students who have completed organic chemistry may take this 3.5-credit lecture course (MWF 11-12, Problem Session TBA). Advanced Organic is not offered every year, but is offered in Spring 2010 by Prof. Rojas.

If you are (or might be) a chemistry or biochemistry major, you do not take CHEM BC3232y because those topics will be covered in more advanced chemistry courses. You have several options for this coming spring:

CHEM BC3338 or 3340y Quantitative and Instrumental Techniques (lab)

- Biochemistry majors may take BC3338y, the 3-credit version (T or R afternoon); chemistry majors take BC 3340y, the 5-credit version (T and R afternoons).

CHEM BC3252y Thermodynamics and Kinetics (lecture)

- Prerequisite: one semester of physics. 3.5 credits, MWF 10-11, F 12-1. CHEM 3252y is typically the next lecture course taken by chemistry and biochemistry majors.

CHEM BC 3282y Biological Chemistry (lecture)

- Required for biochemistry majors. Elective for chemistry majors. 3.5 credits, MWF 9-10, W 12-1.
- This course is a prerequisite to the required fall biochemistry lab (biochem majors), so it needs to be completed by the junior year.

CHEM BC 3280y Advanced Organic Chemistry (lecture)

- Elective for Chemistry and Biochemistry majors. 3.5 credits, MWF 11-12, Problem Session TBA.
- *Advanced Organic* is not offered every year, but is offered in Spring 2010 by Prof. Rojas.

If you are a sophomore considering a major in chemistry or biochemistry, please come discuss your program with any member of the chemistry department at any time; the sooner the better. Many options are open to you. We want to help you make careful, sound, fully informed choices.