Biochemists study molecules found in living organisms, particularly proteins, nucleic acids, lipids, and carbohydrates. While studying biochemistry you will focus your studies on the biosynthesis, metabolism, function, and regulation of these molecules of life. This information is essential to gain an understanding of many biological processes, including how diseases like cancer and diabetes develop, and to learn how genetic engineering and biotechnology can be used in ways that benefit society.

Earning a B.S. in biochemistry will prepare you for graduate study in biochemistry or other biological sciences, professional training programs in the health sciences, careers in teaching, and entry-level positions in industries, agencies, and universities.

Biochemistry is an experimental science, and it’s beneficial to become acquainted with laboratory research approaches beyond those in the formal lab courses, especially if you plan to pursue graduate studies in the field. You will have the chance to meet with your faculty mentor early on to begin planning the research component of your major. At the U of M, one of the nation’s top public research universities, you’ll find plenty of research opportunities, including ones that count for course credit.
Student Group Spotlight: Biochemistry Club

Meet Our Alumni

Lauren Anderson, B.S. '14

"Outside of the classroom, I have had many experiences with research. I have done two different projects (one neuroscience and the other geomicrobiology) and a UROP. Both projects have solidified my interests in the biological sciences and I feel that my background in biochemistry has helped my understanding of my research."

You might also explore

- Biomedical Engineering
- Chemical Engineering
- Genetics, Cell Biology and Development
- Biology
- Chemistry

Associated Careers

Biological Scientists, Clinical Laboratory Technologists, Forensic Scientists, Medical Scientists, Pharmacists, Physicians, Science Technicians