A degree in Natural Sciences (Chemistry)

Chemistry is fundamental to many aspects of our lives. Everyday materials, medicines and microchips are all developed with the expertise of professional chemists. Our degree in Natural Sciences (Q64) will allow you to gain an invaluable understanding of fundamental aspects of Chemistry; from molecular structure and chemical reactivity, to diagnostic agents and therapeutic medicine, its role in plants and animals, proteins and metabolism, the environment and pollution control.

Practical science

Some modules offer the opportunity to undertake practical work at short residential schools or discover practical science online with The OpenScience Laboratory:

www.opensciencelab.ac.uk

Full details of all of our modules can be found online at:

www.open.ac.uk/courses/find/science

Chemistry student testimonials

“...It was superbly supported throughout with really enthusiastic tutors on the national tutorials.”

“...The teaching at the OU is exceptional and I am thoroughly enjoying my studies.”

OpenPlus

This unique partnership between the OU and other leading UK Universities opens up a more affordable and flexible route to an honours degree in Chemistry. Start your study part time with the OU and move on to complete your Chemistry degree with your chosen partner university.

Find out more at: www.open.ac.uk/openplus

Web & Contact

For more information including links to free online study tasters, video, news, events and behind-the-scenes interviews with our academics, visit:

www.open.ac.uk/science

Call our Student Registration & Enquiry Service on +44 (0)300 303 5303 or download or order a printed prospectus at:

www.open.ac.uk/request/prospectus

Images: Chemistry title background © bluecrayola/Shutterstock.com; Man’s hand holding pill with molecule structure © Iaroslav Nelubov/Shutterstock.com; 3-D protein structure – pdb 2V1K, Hersleth et al., 2007.
Why study chemistry with the OU?

- Accessible study open to all
- Highest quality teaching material underpinned by research
- Latest innovative technology
- Study materials delivered via a blend of text, video and interactivity
- Study chemistry flexibly – at a pace to suit you and your other life commitments
- Choose when and where you study, with mobile versions available
- Top student satisfaction rating
- Credit transfer for previous study
- Low fees
- Careers support throughout your study
- Study in partnership with other UK institutions with the OpenPlus scheme

Ongoing support

You won’t be studying on your own. You will have access to:

- Expert personal tutor for one-to-one contact and your own tutor group
- Forums for guidance, advice, community and social interaction
- Computer helpdesk/IT support
- Student support teams
- Disability support teams including equipment loan and communications support
- Open University Students Association (OUSA).

Stage 1

Your study starts with a wide-ranging introduction to highly topical areas of modern science, through which you will begin to acquire the practical, investigative and mathematical skills essential to your development as a scientist.

Stage 2

At Stage 2 you will focus your learning with the core module, *Chemistry: essential concepts* (S215), providing a strong foundation in organic, inorganic, and physical chemistry. You will then choose from a broad selection of modules from across the scientific disciplines.

Stage 3

Stage 3 of your studies will include more advanced chemistry modules which draw on your understanding of fundamental aspects of organic, inorganic and physical chemistry and the skills you developed at Stage 2. Stage 3 will include *Chemistry: further concepts and applications* (S315) as well as one optional module from a range of subjects and a project module.

More information about the complete Q64 Natural Sciences qualification can be found by visiting: [www.open.ac.uk/courses/qualifications/q64](http://www.open.ac.uk/courses/qualifications/q64)

Careers and Skills development

Transferable and employability skills necessary for many career opportunities will be developed progressively throughout your Natural Sciences degree.

You will explore chemical concepts and develop core skills including:

- Assessing and interpreting scientific information
- Analytical, numerical and communication skills
- Experimental design
- Practical investigations
- Data interpretation
- Collaborative team working
- Science communication
- Problem solving and IT.

“An OU qualification says ‘employ me!’”

Are you ready for science study?

Use our online diagnostic quiz to help you decide if you are ready now or need some extra preparation: [www.open.ac.uk/science/main/Studying-science/Undergraduate/PreparingforStudy](http://www.open.ac.uk/science/main/Studying-science/Undergraduate/PreparingforStudy)

If your study skills are a bit rusty or you want to try OU study before committing yourself, don’t worry! You can get started with an access module, or one of our topical Science Short Courses, designed to introduce subject areas and build confidence.

Call our Student Registration & Enquiry Service on +44 (0)300 303 5303 for more advice.