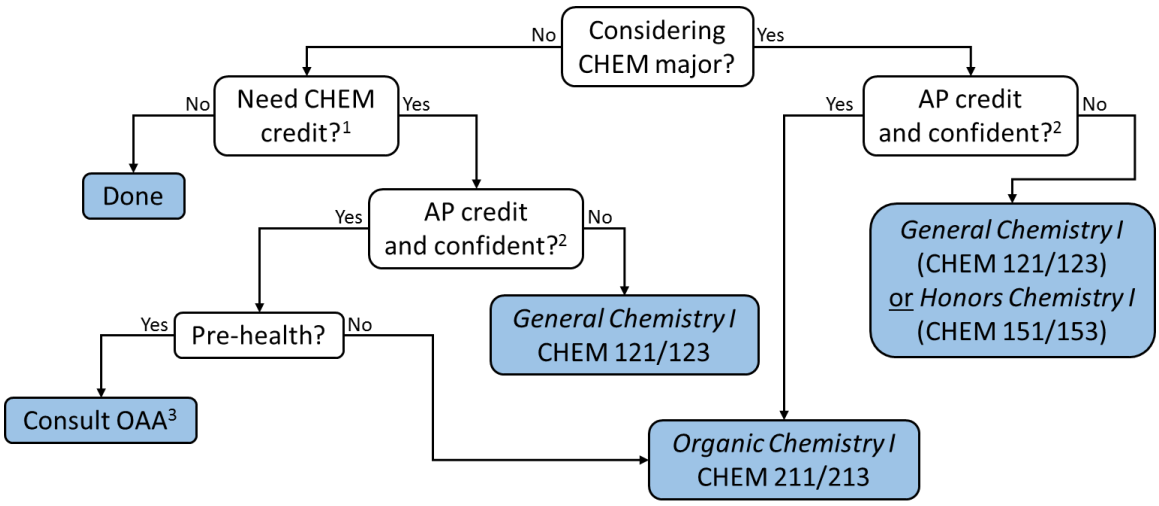
Which Chemistry Class is Right for Me?

This document is designed to help you select the appropriate chemistry course to take during your first year. For any questions, please refer to the notes below and consult an appropriate academic advisor.



CHEM 121/123 – General Chemistry I and General Chemistry Laboratory I
CHEM 121 is the first-year chemistry course most freshmen take. It is an introduction to chemical phenomena, suitable for a wide variety of student backgrounds and interests. The course emphasizes concept development, problem solving, and foundational methods in chemistry. Students must also register for CHEM 123. Please refer to the CHEM 123 syllabus for important information regarding lab enrollment.

CHEM 151/153 – Honors Chemistry I and Honors Chemistry Laboratory I
CHEM 151 is a first-year chemistry course aimed at students who plan on majoring in a chemistry-related field and/or taking upper division chemistry courses. It is a deeper introduction to chemical phenomena emphasizing principles and theories. A strong command of high-school chemistry, with or without AP credit, is expected. This course is strongly recommended for prospective chemistry majors, although CHEM 121 is also suitable for the Chemistry major requirements. Students must also register for CHEM 153.

CHEM 211/213 – Organic Chemistry I and Organic Chemistry Discussion
CHEM 211 is often taken during the second year at Rice, but some students with a very strong AP chemistry background are adequately prepared to take this course during their freshman year. This course covers organic molecules, with emphasis on structure, functional groups, bonding, and reaction mechanisms. CHEM 211 is offered both fall and spring semesters; some students elect to wait until the spring semester to take CHEM 211, for a variety of reasons. There is no laboratory course accompanying CHEM 211. The organic chemistry laboratory course (CHEM 215) is typically taken together with *Organic Chemistry II* (CHEM 212/320). Students must also register for CHEM 213.

Notes:

1. **Need CHEM credit?** Not all degrees require chemistry beyond the first year–please check the General Announcements for more information regarding specific degree requirements. All pre-health professional tracks require at least one year of chemistry.
2. **Have AP credit?** Students will receive credit for CHEM 111/112/113/114, which is the equivalent of General Chemistry, but it does not count towards the Group 3 distribution requirement.
3. **Confident?** Many students who have AP Chemistry credit are not confident in their knowledge of chemistry. This may depend on the quality and rigor of your high school courses or on the length of time since you last took a chemistry course. Many students find it helpful to take General Chemistry at Rice, and thus forgo their AP credit, to solidify their background for advanced chemistry coursework or for professional school requirements. Students interested in majoring in chemistry are strongly encouraged to speak to a major advisor to determine the best first-year course to take.
4. **Consult OAA.** Some medical schools may not accept AP credit for application to medical school. As such, you should seek advice about whether to take your AP credit. Contact the Office of Academic Advising (OAA) or refer to their website (www.oaa.rice.edu) for more information.

Chemistry Major Advisors

The Chemistry Department has one faculty advisor for every residential college so that each student can form a consistent bond within the Department while completing their degree. Contact your Major Advisor with any questions or concerns you may have – they're here to help!

College	Chem Advisor	Office Location	Email	Ext.
Baker	Kristi Kincaid	DBH 242	kincaid@rice.edu	5837
Brown	Zach Ball	BRC 327	zb1@rice.edu	6159
Duncan	Matt Jones	GRB 206	mrj@rice.edu	3489
Hanszen	Jeff Hartgerink	BRC 319	jdh@rice.edu	4142
Jones	Bruce Weisman	GRB W103	weisman@rice.edu	3709
Lovett	Angel Marti	DBH 320B	aam4@rice.edu	3486
Martel	Laszlo Kurti	BRC 377	kurti.laszlo@rice.edu	4353
McMurtry	Seiichi Matsuda	Allen Center 323	matsuda@rice.edu	4002
Sid Richardson	Lon Wilson	DBH 353	durango@rice.edu	3268
Wiess	Christy Landes	DBH 352	cflandes@rice.edu	4232
Will Rice	Han Xiao	BRC 317	han.xiao@rice.edu	8239
Chemical Physics (*All Colleges*)	Bruce Weisman	GRB W103	weisman@rice.edu	3709

General Interest Courses

CHEM 110 (Fall, Spring)
Freshman Chemistry Seminar is a half-semester course that introduces freshmen to chemical research at Rice and in Houston. The course is offered both semesters, and although some of the same material is covered in both semesters, the fall course emphasizes material for students interested in the PhD track towards academic and industrial chemistry careers, while the spring semester places greater emphasis on research in the Texas Medical Center (TMC) for students who plan to pursue the health professions. Additional tours and activities TBA. All first-year non-transfer students are eligible to enroll in CHEM 110 regardless of AP credit.

CHEM 176 (Spring)
The Chemistry of Art covers the chemistry of the materials and methods used to create, conserve and authenticate art objects will be presented. Topics will include sculpture, painting, photography, textiles, jewelry, furniture, etc. Taught in conjunction with the Conservation Department and Staff of the MFAH. Some classes will be held at the MFAH or HMNS.

CHEM 178 (Spring)
The Chemistry of Cooking examines the chemistry involved in the composition, transformation, and consumption of food. Topics include chemical properties and reactions of food, cooking tools, and techniques, sensory perception, and nutrition. Lectures and hands-on kitchen experiments are taught in conjunction with Rice Dining Service. Knowledge of high school chemistry is expected.