

Carleton

Biochemistry Program

507-222-5769

Welcome Friend,

Congratulations on being accepted to Carleton! As director of the Biochemistry program, I'm delighted to hear that you are interested in biochemistry and wanted to tell you a few things about the minor, which might help in your decision making.

At Carleton, Biochemistry is a program rather than a department. This means that students at Carleton can minor in [Biochemistry](#), but also have a separate, primary major in addition. Biochemistry [faculty](#) are members of the Biology and Chemistry departments, and most Biochemistry minors will major in one of those two disciplines. However, there is no requirement to do so. In fact, in the past few years, Biochemistry minors have graduated with majors ranging from Classics to Computer Science. The requirements for the minor include foundational courses in both biology and chemistry and culminate in upper-level courses that explore the current scientific literature. A central component of the minor is a project-based laboratory course, in which students perform experiments that fit together and contribute to an ongoing research project.

Several of our students also participate in independent faculty research projects during the academic year or over the summer, and many others pursue summer research opportunities off campus. All the Biochemistry faculty research is done in a state of the art, multidisciplinary science facility, made up of the interconnected Hulings, Olin, and Anderson Halls, in an integrated Biochemistry research laboratory shared by Profs. Calderone, Sung, and myself. Students who work in our research groups share equipment and supplies, but also ideas and advice.

After graduating, a large number of our Biochemistry minors pursue a medical degree. Others go on to do graduate work in biochemistry or related field and some pursue other opportunities, such as high school teaching or working in industry or in non-profit organizations. Regardless of your future plans, we hope that you will find the Biochemistry program to be an inspiring and supportive environment for exploring your interests in understanding the molecular basis of biology and vitality of chemistry.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with questions by phone or by email (jchihade@carleton.edu).

Best regards,



Joe Chihade
Professor of Chemistry and Director of Biochemistry

