CHOOSING A FIRST COURSE IN CHEMISTRY

Students take chemistry courses for a variety of reasons. Choosing the correct sequence of courses is important to avoid wasted time and effort. This guide will help you choose, but it is not a substitute for advisement. If you have not already spoken to an advisor at the Center for Academic Advisement and Student Success, or one within your declared major, you should do so as soon as possible.

I am interested in a career in science and pursuing a degree in Biology, Chemistry, EESC, or Physics.

I need either Chem 1050 or Chem 1200&1201

I have never taken high school chemistry, or I did not do very well in it (this includes scoring less than 85 on the NY Regents Exam, if you took the course in New York).

Or I am not comfortable with mathematics.

Take Chem 1050

I am interested in a career in medicine, pharmacy, dentistry, physician assistant, physical therapy, or similar health profession.

I need either Chem 1050 or Chem 1200&1201

I took high school chemistry and did well in it. If I took it in New York, I scored over 85 on the NY Regents Exam and I am comfortable with algebra and solving word problems.

Take Chem 1200&1201

I am interested in a career in nursing, occupational therapy, or an allied health profession.

I need Chem 1040.

Most tracks in Health and Nutrition Sciences give a choice of either Chem 1040 or Chem 1200/1201. Chem 1040 is usually the better choice, but you should consult your faculty advisor in HNS.

I am not interested in a science major but would like to take a course in the area.

My options are:
Chem 1007 – fulfills Life and Physical Sciences Pathways requirement
Chem 1011 – fulfills Flexible Core Scientific World Pathways requirement
Chem 1012 – fulfills Flexible Core Scientific World Pathways requirement
Chem 1037 – fulfills Flexible Core Scientific World Pathways requirement