These programme regulations should be read in conjunction with the University's core regulations for undergraduate programmes, and the marking and classification conventions for undergraduate programmes.

[First intake 2026-27]

MSci Biology and Chemistry (CF12)

MSci Biology and Chemistry with Placement (CF16)

1. This programme is available at Durham City, in a full-time mode of study.
2. All module selections must be timetable compatible and approved by the Director of Natural Sciences or by their nominee to ensure a credible pathway through to 120 credits of Year 4 modules.

Level 1 (Certificate)

3. Candidates shall study and be assessed in the following modules:

		Credit value
Genetics *	BIOL1171	20
Molecules and Cells *	BIOL1281	20
Core Chemistry 1 #	CHEM1078	30
Practical Chemistry 1A *	CHEM1087	10

4. **Either** Candidates shall study and be assessed in the following modules:

		Credit value
Linear Algebra I *	MATH1071	20
Calculus I *	MATH1061	20

Or Candidates shall study and be assessed in the following modules:

		Credit value
Single Mathematics A *	MATH1561	20
Single Mathematics B *	MATH1571	20

Or Candidates shall study and be assessed in the following modules:

List A:		**Credit value**
Mathematical And Experimental Tools Required in Chemistry *	CHEM1111	20
20 credits of module(s) from those subjects listed in Paragraph 2 of the BSc Natural Sciences programme (CFG0) regulations		20

Or Candidates wishing to study for an accredited degree must study and be assessed in the following modules:

		Credit value
Mathematical And Experimental Tools Required in Chemistry	CHEM1111	20
Introduction To Materials Chemistry	CHEM1127	10
Practical Chemistry 1B	CHEM1107	10

Level 2 (Diploma)

5. Candidates shall study and be assessed in:

		Credit value
Molecular Biology *	BIOL2441	20
Metabolism *	BIOL2491	20
Cell Signalling *	BIOL2501	20
Core Chemistry 2 #	CHEM2012	40
Structure and Reactivity in Organic Chemistry *	CHEM2087	10
Practical Chemistry 2 – Synthetic *	CHEM2147	10

Level 3 (Degree)

6. Candidates shall study and be assessed in the following modules:

		Credit value
Biochemistry and Biotechnology *	BIOL3601	20
Stress and Response to the Environment *	BIOL3491	20
Bioactive Chemistry 3 *	CHEM3211	20
Advanced Biological Chemistry *	CHEM3421	20
Advanced Organic Chemistry *	CHEM3117	10
Practical Chemistry 3 – Synthetic *	CHEM3447	10
20 credits of available modules from Level 3 (including the Biosciences (BIOL) list and Science Enterprise)	NSCI3001	20

Placement – Year 3 or Year 4

7. Candidates admitted to the MSci Biology and Chemistry (CF12) can apply to transfer to the MSci Biology and Chemistry with Placement (CF16). Students undertaking the MSci Biology and Chemistry with Placement (CF16) will undertake an approved placement chosen in consultation with the Director of Natural Sciences or their nominee and the host partner.

8. Candidates wishing to transfer to the MSci Biology and Chemistry with Placement (CF16) as their third year must:

    a. Have successfully completed Level 1 of the MSci Biology and Chemistry (CF12) and progressed to Level 2 of the Honours or BSc programme; and

    b. During the first term of Level 2 study, the student must discuss their intention to apply with the Director of Natural Sciences or their nominee in order to be admitted to the MSci Biology and Chemistry with Placement (CF16) and receive approval by the Director of Natural Sciences or their nominee; and

    c. Secure a Placement Year opportunity or opportunities comprising at least 40 weeks of professional-level work experience, agreed with the Director of Natural Sciences or their nominee; and

    d. Successfully complete Level 2 to be eligible to progress to Level 3 of the MSci Biology and Chemistry (CF12) Honours programme.

9. Students who the Board of Examiners for Natural Sciences deem to have made satisfactory progress on the placement will continue to Level 3 of the MSci Biology and Chemistry with Placement (CF16). Students who have not made satisfactory progress on the placement will not be permitted to continue on the MSci Biology and Chemistry with Placement (CF16) programme, but must instead proceed to Level 3 of the MSci Biology and Chemistry (CF12) programme.

10. Candidates wishing to transfer to the MSci Biology and Chemistry with Placement (CF16) as their fourth year must:

    a. Have successfully completed Level 2 of the MSci Biology and Chemistry (CF12) and progressed to Level 3 of the Honours programme; and

    b. During the first term of Level 3 study, the student must discuss their intention to apply with the Director of Natural Sciences or their nominee in order to be admitted to the MSci Biology and Chemistry with Placement (CF16) and receive approval by the Director of Natural Sciences or their nominee; and

    c. Secure a Placement Year opportunity or opportunities comprising at least 40 weeks of professional-level work experience, agreed with the Director of Natural Sciences or their nominee; and

    d. Successfully complete Level 3 of the MSci Biology and Chemistry (CF12) programme to be eligible to progress to Level 4 of the MSci Biology and Chemistry (CF12) Honours programme.

    e. register for the module “Natural Sciences Placement MSCI (NSCI 3996)”

11. Students who the Board of Examiners deem to have made satisfactory progress on the placement will continue to Level 4 of the MSci Biology and Chemistry with Placement (CF16). Students who have not made satisfactory progress on the placement will not be permitted to continue on the MSci Biology and Chemistry with Placement (CF16) programme, but must instead proceed to Level 4 of the MSci Biology and Chemistry (CF12) programme.

Level 4 (Degree)

12. Candidates shall study and be assessed in the following modules:

		Credit value
Workshop	BIOL4111	20
Biochemistry Research Project	BIOL4022	40
Frontiers in Molecular Assembly	CHEM4311	20
Bioactive Chemistry Research Project	CHEM4272	40

Assessment, progression and award

13. Modules marked with the # symbol must be passed at no less than 40% in order to progress to the next level of study.
14. Modules marked with the * symbol must be passed at no less than 40% in order to progress to the next level of study. Students who have not passed will not be permitted to continue on the MSci in Biology and Chemistry (CF12) programme, but must instead proceed to the next level of the BSc Natural Sciences (CFG0) programme in accordance with the Core Regulations.
15. Candidates whose achievement at the end of Level 3 does not qualify them to proceed to Level 4 will be awarded a BSc in Biology and Chemistry in accordance with the Core Regulations.
16. Candidates whose achievement at the end of Level 4 does not qualify them to be awarded the MSci degree will be awarded a BSc in Biology and Chemistry in accordance with the Core Regulations.
17. This programme is not available with an additional year to study abroad at a partner institution; however, this does not exclude the opportunity for an individual student to seek a concession to undertake a replacement year at an overseas institution where an appropriate programme of study can be identified and secured by that student in liaison with the University's International Office and subject to the approval of the Director of Natural Sciences.

Professional accreditation

18. MSci Biology and Chemistry: This programme is accredited by the Royal Society of Chemistry for candidates entering Level 1 up to and including October 2023 as satisfying the academic requirements for the award of Chartered Chemist (CChem) for holders of first or second class honours degrees.