

Organic First Chemistry

What are the benefits of the Organic First sequence?

- The first year is not a repeat of high school chemistry. The first semester emphasizes chemical structure and reactivity using organic and biological chemistry.
- You get to organic chemistry faster, which is more important and more relevant for biology and life sciences.
- The sequence provides better preparation for biology and pre-professional programs (premedical, pre-veterinary, prepharmacy).

Questions on the curriculum, any of the courses, or their implications for your program?

More details on the Organic First program can be found at the department web site at

<http://www.uwrf.edu/chemistry/>.

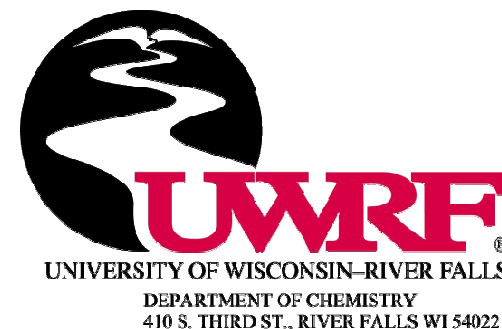
See the menu bar on the left and click on "UWRF Organic First Curriculum"

Still have questions? Talk to your faculty advisor, or email the department chair, Jeff Rosenthal (jeffrey.rosenthal@uwrf.edu) or the Organic First coordinator, Michael Kahlow (michael.a.kahlow@uwrf.edu).

Organic First Chemistry

Chemistry 130 – Introductory Organic Chemistry

A new chemistry course and curriculum at UW-River Falls, supported by the National Science Foundation.



Organic First – A new way of teaching chemistry

The Organic First chemistry course and curriculum represent a new way to present the content of the standard first two years of chemistry.

Most students currently taking college chemistry are majoring in the life sciences, such as biology, animal science, or pre-professional programs. If you are in these programs, this course is designed for you!

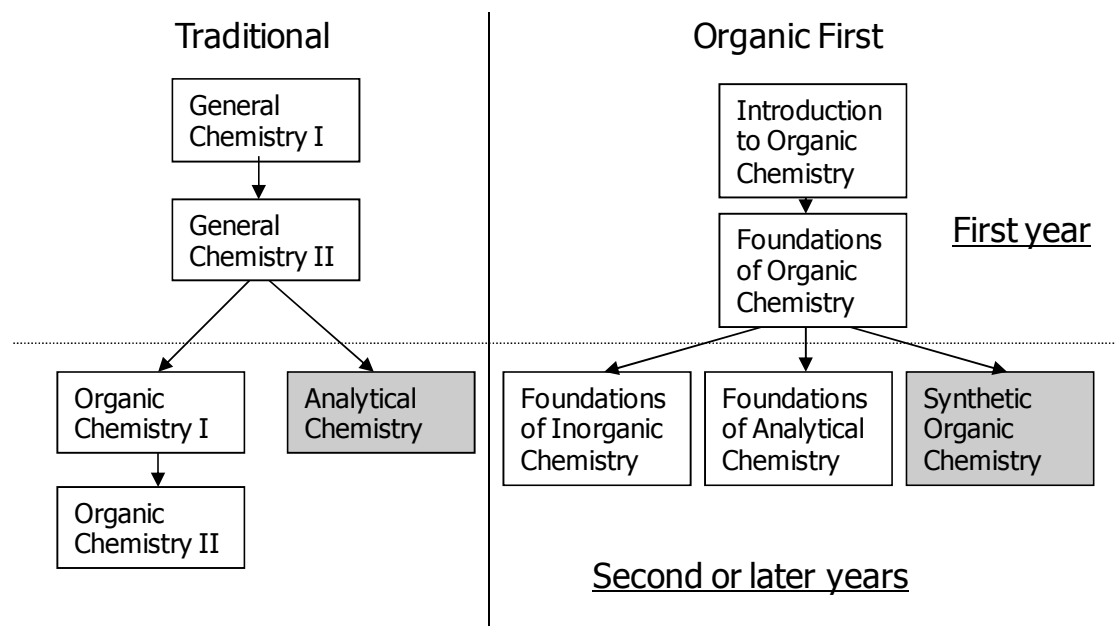
The Organic First curriculum replaces the first year of general chemistry with two one-semester courses which use carbon and its chemistry – the chemistry of living organisms and the environment – to illustrate fundamental chemical principles. The full curriculum covers the same same material in the same number of credits as the traditional courses, but in a more logical and relevant fashion.

Who should take the new courses?

Any student looking at a science program which requires at least two years of chemistry, such as chemistry, biology/biomedical, or preveterinary, premedical, or prepharmacy. Students looking at other majors, such as animal science, should check with their faculty advisor.

Traditional and organic first curricula.

Shaded courses are typically optional for students in preprofessional programs



Are the requirements for the new courses different?

No. The requirements are the same as the traditional curriculum. You should have at least three years of high school math (four preferred), including one year each of algebra, geometry, and an advanced math course. You should also have taken and passed one year of high school chemistry.

Does Chemistry 130 meet the UWRF Science/Laboratory General Education requirement?

Yes.

What if I want to major in chemistry?

The new sequence incorporates all of the topics of the traditional curriculum. We've designed the course sequence to make it easier to major in chemistry (four one-semester courses give more flexibility than two two-semester courses).

What if I want to take the traditional course?

No problem. We're still offering the traditional curriculum.