



SALEM STATE UNIVERSITY
CAREER SERVICES

CHEMISTRY

MAJOR CAREER GUIDE

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ACADEMIC INFORMATION	3
WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY MAJOR?	3
PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS	3
INFORMATIONAL INTERVIEWING	3
JOB SHADOWING	3
VOLUNTEERING	3
SAMPLE RESUME	4
SAMPLE COVER LETTER	5
SAMPLE COMPANY LIST	6

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

Follow this link to the Salem State University Chemistry and Physics Department home page. Here you will find program information, degree options, course listings, licensure information, events information and much more:
<https://www.salemstate.edu/academics/college-arts-and-sciences/chemistry-and-physics>

WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY MAJOR?

Are you a Chemistry major or are you considering Chemistry as a major? Follow the link below to the “What Can I Do With My Major?” resource on the Salem State University Career Services web site:

<https://elearning.salemstate.edu/courses/939337/pages/what-can-you-do-with-your-major>

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

As in any profession, staying connected to professionals in your field is vital. Below are links to professional associations for professionals in the field of chemistry. Stay up to date with industry trends, connect with fellow chemistry professionals and utilize resources for job searching:

[American Chemical Society](#)

[American Oil Chemists' Society \(AOCS\)](#)

[International Organization for Chemical Sciences in Development \(IOCD\)](#) -

[International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry \(IUPAC\)](#) -

[Society of Chemical Industry](#)

[Society of Cosmetic Chemists](#)

INFORMATIONAL INTERVIEWING

Informational interviewing is a method of gathering information about career options, industries and employers. It is an opportunity to learn about a particular job from someone already in the field. It is *not* a job interview, but it can help you learn about job opportunities and build your network for when the job search comes. This is an ideal chance to help you gain a more thorough understanding of a particular industry or job. It's also a great way to determine “is this what I want to do?” and to learn about different paths others have taken to get where they are.

JOB SHADOWING

An additional option you may want to consider to obtain information about your industry of choice is job shadowing. Job shadowing is an opportunity to step into the life of a professional in your field while they are working. Typically, job shadow experiences will last anywhere from one day to one week. Much like an informational interview, this is your opportunity to see firsthand what a “day in the life” of a professional is like.

VOLUNTEERING

Volunteering is another great way to learn about what to expect when working in your industry. Similar to a job shadow, you will be able to see a “day in the life” of a professional while also contributing some of your own skills or services. Volunteering can give you a chance to gain new expertise and help you narrow down your specific interests in the field. Follow the links below to help you identify current volunteer opportunities:

<http://volunteer.nsuw.org/>

SAMPLE RESUME

CAITLIN CHEMIST

37 Loring Avenue, Salem, MA 01970 | cchemist@salemstate.edu | 111-222-3333

EDUCATION **Bachelor of Science in Chemistry** May 20XX
Salem State University, Salem, MA
Minor: **Biology** GPA: **3.6**

RELATED General Chemistry Calculus Advanced Chemistry of
COURSEWORK Organic Chemistry Cell Biology the Environment
Biochemistry Genetics

EXPERIENCE **Chemistry Tutor** 5/20XX---8/20XX
Suzuka Tutoring Academy Suzuka, Japan

- Tutored small groups of students in elementary principles of chemistry
- Educated a peer group of tutors about implementing a project-based learning experience on the topic of thermodynamics
- Assisted senior tutors with development of mini-lesson plans for tutoring sessions

Intern 5/20XX---8/20XX
Green Building Conversion Project Washington, DC
The Washington Center

- Worked with a team to analyze the carbon impact of the Josephine Butler Parks Center building
- Researched and submitted an action plan to reduce overall carbon consumption
- Recruited volunteers from the community to implement physical changes to the building
- Drafted follow---up report to document changes to carbon footprint
- Actively participated in the rehabilitation of Marvin Gaye Park

SKILLS Photoshop, Excel, PowerPoint, Word, Outlook, HTML, SPSS

LABORATORY SKILLS (Speak with your advisors and lab professors about how to compose the lab section of your resume.)

VOLUNTEERING **Soccer Coach** 6/20XX-9/20XX
Kick-it Gym Danvers, MA

SAMPLE COVER LETTER

CAITLIN CHEMIST

37 Loring Avenue, Salem, MA 01970 | cchemist@salemstate.edu | 111-222-3333

February 21, 20XX

Todd Entropy
Polymer Corporation
602 Avogadro Street
Salem, MA 01970

Dear Mr. Entropy:

I am writing to express my interest in the position of Environmental Chemist that I was recently referred to by Dr. Mary Jerome at Salem State University. I have completed my Bachelor of Science in Chemistry and believe that the combination of my education with my analytical and organizational skills make me an ideal candidate for the Environmental Chemist position.

Based on the position description that I reviewed, Polymer Corporation is searching for candidates who have experience working in different countries. While I was a Chemistry Tutor in Suzuka, Japan, I gained cross-cultural experiences working with Japanese children. I was able to apply my knowledge of chemistry concepts to assist senior tutors with creating lessons that were accessible to children in that culture. My experiences within my Advanced Chemistry of the Environment coursework developed my expertise in the area of Environmental Chemistry, which would also be an asset to this position.

Polymer Corporation is a well-recognized organization in the field that values multi-culturalism and environmental conscious practices. Since 1982, Polymer Corporation has made countless innovations to the field of Environmental Chemistry by combining these values with the expertise of their employees. I am confident that I can be a strong asset to the Polymer Corporation team and look forward to speaking with you further about my qualifications for the Environmental Chemist position. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Caitlin Chemist

SAMPLE COMPANIES

ALPHABEST EDUCATION
AMERICAN RED CROSS
BETH ISRAEL DEACONESS MEDICAL CENTER
BROAD INSTITUTE
COLLEGIUM PHARMACEUTICAL, INC
COMPUGAIN
GENZYME CORPORATION
LEIDOS
MASSACHUSETTS EYE AND EAR INFIRMARY
MORPHO DETECTION INC
NTECH SOLUTIONS INC
PFIZER
PHYSICAL SCIENCE INC
TMC ENVIRONMENTAL