INTRODUCTION
Biochemistry is the study of chemical compounds and processes occurring in living organisms. With new developments and current topics such as stem cell research and cloning, biochemistry is everywhere in today’s society. In response to these trends, Eastern Connecticut State University has developed a biochemistry major and minor, meeting standards set forth by the American Chemical Society (ACS) and the American Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION
The biochemistry program begins with introductory courses common to the biological and chemical sciences. Biochemistry majors then take a rigorous yearlong lecture and laboratory course sequence that familiarizes students with the most significant aspects of biochemistry and biochemical research. In addition, upper-level biochemistry courses examine aspects of modern biochemistry as well as the molecular and cellular techniques used in industrial and academic research facilities. Students are required to take additional courses in biology and physical biochemistry to further their quantitative knowledge of biological processes and bio-macromolecular structure and function.

TRENDS IN THIS FIELD
“Soaring to New Heights: Connecticut Job Outlook 1998-2008,” a Connecticut Department of Labor report, indicates that the number of jobs for biological scientists is growing at a rate of 43.2 percent. “Biotechnological research and development should continue to drive much faster than average employment growth.”

“Employment of biological scientists is projected to grow 21 percent over the 2008-18 decade, much faster than the average for all occupations, as biotechnological research and development continues to drive job growth.” (2010-11 Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Outlook Handbook)

CAREER OPTIONS
The biochemistry program provides a solid scientific background for students seeking a research, teaching or service career in the life sciences. Biochemistry coursework and extensive hands-on laboratory experience provide the knowledge and training necessary for students seeking a future in:

- Medical school
- Biochemical research
- Dental school
- Biotechnology
- Veterinary school
- Biopharmaceuticals
- Graduate school (life science programs)
- Genetics
- Forensic science
- Proteomic research
STUDENT SUCCESS
Recent Eastern students who have received either a bachelor’s degree or a minor in biochemistry are currently pursuing their future at the following professional/graduate schools and Connecticut-based companies:

- Dartmouth College
- Yale University
- University of Connecticut
- Phoenix Environmental Laboratories
- Pfizer
- University of Connecticut School of Medicine
- Alexion Pharmaceuticals
- Tufts University of Veterinary Medicine
- Virginia Tech University
- Cubist Pharmaceuticals
- Wesleyan University
- Pharmalytica Services
- Protein Science
- University of Chicago
- Dana Farber Cancer Institute

“I think the program was definitely worthwhile and I feel prepared to obtain work in the outside world.”
JUSTIN PIRO ’05
Dartmouth College Graduate Student in Molecular and Cellular Biology

“I’ve always been interested in math and science. When I arrived at Eastern I found myself liking the quantitative areas of biology so I took some biochemistry classes. I ended up loving the classes.”
CHRISTOPHER JENSEN ’05 - Pharmalytica Services

FOR MORE INFORMATION
Please contact John M. Toedt, biochemistry program coordinator, at toedtj@easternct.edu or visit www.easternct.edu/physicalscience/biochemistry.htm.