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Acs biochem exam

Exam materials and practice keys for biochemistry majors, including ACS-certified and non-ACS-certified tracks, are shared among students. One pre-med student seeks advice on choosing the right major, considering both philosophical and psychological interests alongside a potential biochemistry degree. The significance of an ACS-certified degree over a non-ACS-certified one is unclear, with some suggesting it may not be crucial for medical school or graduate programs. An engineering student notes that ABET accreditation is vital in their field, but this may not translate to other disciplines. A snippet from the biochemistry department highlights the four options for biochemistry electives, including chemical synthesis laboratory and instrumental analysis. Some students might find the full ACS program unnecessary, especially those planning to enter medical school. The majority of responses agree that ACS certification is negligible in the application process, except perhaps for those pursuing careers in industry, where it can demonstrate a more rigorous education preparing them for lab work. Professors suggest that a Chem major is a Chem major, and the extra requirements for ACS certification may not add much value. Rather than focusing solely on earning a B.S. in Chemistry, one's ultimate goal should not be as crucial as it seems. My personal experience serves as an example: I initially pursued a B.S. Biochemistry with an ACS certification program before switching to a non-certified B.S. Chemistry program. However, upon graduation, I realized that I could have easily done a B.A. in Chemistry and pursued a double major in Music, which would have been more enjoyable. In the medical school admissions process, GPA/MCAT scores and extracurricular activities (ECs) are what truly matter, not one's major. At my institution, we offer both an ACS-certified and non-certified B.S. Chemistry program with a biochemistry option. The main difference between these programs is only one class. If I had to make this choice again, I would consider pursuing the ACS-certified option if it aligned with my schedule. Nevertheless, in my situation, the difference was three classes due to research and presentation requirements counting as upper-division electives for non-ACS-certified students. Many of my peers have opted out of the ACS-certified program or switched to a B.A. in Chemistry because of the significant workload involved. For those contemplating their major choices, I would advise caution when committing to the Chemistry or Biochemistry programs. As a freshman, I initially took pride in being a Chem major due to its reputation as a challenging field. However, by junior-senior year, I realized that the expectations were unsustainable for me. My advice is to choose a major that you are truly passionate about and enjoy. Unless you're highly interested in Chemistry or Biochemistry, pursuing a minor may be sufficient to gain a solid understanding of the subject without committing to a major. Ultimately, it's essential to prioritize one's interests over the perceived prestige of a particular field. I still remember when people would react with a "whoa" whenever they found out I was a Chem major. At that time, everyone knew it was an extremely challenging course of study. But, it wasn't until my Junior/Senior year that I realized the huge workload that Chemistry students have to deal with. The two things that scared me the most were having to take over a year's worth of physical chemistry and spending almost all my time in LAB. My friends who majored in math or comp sci were taking 25 quarter units, still managing to party hard, while I was only taking 15 quarter units and stuck in lab all day long! So, I would recommend majoring in something you absolutely love. Only commit to Chem or Biochem if you're genuinely passionate about it. If you just like chemistry or biochemistry because of high school science, doing a minor might be enough to get you familiar with the subject. I totally agree on this one - I majored in biochem and experienced similar feelings, but I loved every bit of it! There's something amazing about pushing yourself really hard in college and succeeding! However, it is a massive commitment. If you haven't started college yet, why decide what to major in before getting there? My advice would be to think very carefully before committing to the Chemistry or Biochemistry major. When I was a freshman, I proudly said I was a Chem major because everyone thinks it's an extremely tough course of study. But, I didn't realize how tough it was until my Junior/Senior year when the workload started burning me out. The two things that worried me the most were taking over a year's worth of physical chemistry and being stuck in lab all day long. Some of my friends who majored in math or comp sci were taking 25 quarter units, still having time to party, while I was only taking 15 quarter units and stuck in lab! So, I would recommend majoring in something you absolutely love. Only commit to Chem or Biochem if you're seriously interested in it. If you're just slightly interested in Chemistry or Biochemistry (probably because of high school chemistry or science), doing a minor might be enough to give you a good understanding of the subject. Looking forward to seeing everyone at the meeting tomorrow and discussing our strategies, but I have some concerns about my ACS biochem exam. As it's more geared towards assessing readiness for graduate school, I'm studying hard to make sure I'm prepared. I was wondering if you have a good source for lab techniques or should I rely on Lehningers? The questions seem similar in level of difficulty to the chapter questions in Lehningers, but not like the MCAT biochem, which is passage-based and supposedly easier. If I've done well in my 2-semester course (basic metabolism, kinetics, and glycolysis), I should be fine on the ACS, as it's designed for that. However, if I only did a 1-semester course, my teacher will put a lot of pressure on me due to the large curve already applied by the ACS. Do you have any advice or tips from your experiences taking the exam? I've been focusing on metabolic cycles too! I'm studying diligently. Do you have a go-to source for lab techniques or should I stick with what's covered in Lehninger? The questions are probably similar to those in the back of the Lehninger textbook in terms of difficulty level. You should at least know how lab techniques work and what they do, even if it's just on a basic level. They won't ask you complex steps that take 20 minutes to solve because then there wouldn't be enough questions. I'm looking for online lecture notes or study materials like PDFs, docs, powerpoints, or flashcards - anything helps! If you have personal notes, feel free to share them with me, and I'll keep it confidential upon request. Our professor's slides are simple and lack details, and the book takes a lot of time to read, so any help is appreciated. I'm taking many credits this semester. I've found Khan Academy helpful in the past! Have you checked out their biochemistry resources? I'm also wondering if there are any online lecture notes or study materials available - PDFs, docs, powerpoints, or flashcards would be great! If you have personal notes, feel free to share them with me, and I'll keep it confidential upon request. Our professor's slides are simple and lack details, and the book takes a lot of time to read, so any help is appreciated. To make things easier, I think understanding the glycolytic pathway through the electron transport chain would be a good starting point. That's what most biochem classes focus on, and once you understand it, you can figure out the energy required to process anything and the amount of energy you can get from any molecule in the human body. A tutor might also be helpful if you have the time - biochemistry is more about conceptual thinking than anything else. Putting extra effort into learning about these topics will help you excel in my suggested subjects. I used Chads video (now Chemistryprep.com) for elementary biochemistry courses last semester and couldn't recommend it more; it's amazing. Reddit's cookie policy allows it to provide a better experience with necessary cookies, but rejecting non-essential ones may impact functionality. As a member of the community, you should be aware that most medical schools require some form of biochemistry course. Some schools offer one-semester or two-semester courses, such as survey of biochemistry or biochemistry 1 and biochem 2. While it's true that MSAR states almost no schools require Biochem outright, the majority of people involved in this process say take a solid biochemistry course. Most med schools cover biochemistry in the first two years, so taking an advanced course will make you better prepared. I'm taking a survey of biochemistry course and found it worked fine for most medical schools except one I plan to apply to. My only state school has a specific requirement that the course must be at the "400" level. Next semester, I have to take the regular one anyway. FWIW, my friend who's taking biochem in med school right now said it's very different from what we're learning. Johns Hopkins only requires just one semester of it. A whole year might be overkill. Biochemistry as an undergraduate major is all about introducing students to chemistry and the structure of biological macromolecules. The curriculum also covers various mechanisms that occur in living organisms, including enzyme catalysis, biosynthesis, regulation, and information transfer. Having completed both organic chemistry prerequisites and medical school biochemistry, I can confidently attest that this course provides an excellent foundation. While it's true that taking a recommended pre-med course is often the priority, having a more specialized course in biochemistry may be beneficial for those preparing to attend medical school. In my experience, a one-year course was advantageous, allowing me to grasp the material with ease during my first year of biochemistry. However, it's not impossible to succeed without such a course; it simply requires additional effort. Similarly, familiarity with other subjects like anatomy, immunology, and others can make the transition to medical school more manageable. A one- or two-year survey course in these areas may be sufficient for those who don't have time for a longer course, as it's still better than having no exposure at all.