

Chemistry Suggested Reading

Chemistry is a wide-ranging science concerned with the synthesis, structures, dynamics, properties and transformations of all types of materials – organic, inorganic and biological.

Chemists are a constant source of innovation: it is hard to imagine any product introduced in recent times that did not require the creative efforts of a chemist at some stage. Chemistry also underpins the conceptual framework and methodology of biochemistry and molecular medicine, and is at the heart of many major industrial activities.

If you have a scientific approach, and chemistry is your favourite subject, that is enough reason in itself to study it at university.

1. Subscription to journals: 'Science' and 'Nature'

'Science' and 'Nature' are the most widely-read and prestigious scientific journals in the world. Getting a publication accepted to either is extremely competitive, so only the most significant, cutting-edge science makes it. It's a great way to keep up to date with recent developments - the only drawback being that it's aimed at academics, rather than secondary school children. '

<https://www.sciencemag.org/>

<http://www.nature.com/>

2. Chemistry World

This is a much more accessible journal, in that it has both articles and scientific papers, and it also gives real life applications of new science - for example, there's a piece in the current edition about new technologies that are being used in the Winter Olympics.

<http://www.rsc.org/chemistryworld/>

3. Nature podcasts

These are excellent and completely free. The writers of the synonymous magazine take an issue that is of 'public interest' and have a discussion about it with a couple of experts. It's very well done and accessible. The topics are usually of importance or interest to the general public, so it's perfect if you are thinking of studying science at university.

<http://www.nature.com/podcast/index.html>

4. Mechanisms in Organic Chemistry by Peter Syke.

If you want to take things beyond your A level work, this is a good place to start, as it contains topics that you will likely study in your first year of degree.