



# JOSEPH

## BIOLOGY & BIOCHEMISTRY

### ABOUT MY MAJOR

In Biology, we explore all the realms of life, taking classes related to the human body, evolution, ecology, and different specific diseases. For Biochemistry, we learn more about the physical side of the world and how things work. You also learn about chemical interactions within the body and the different reactions.

### CHOOSING MY MAJOR

In high school, I took General Biology and I really enjoyed the course content. I had really good teachers. In my sophomore year, I took AP Biology, which was a lot more difficult and a lot more stressful, but I still really enjoyed the content. And then the next year, I took AP Chemistry and enjoyed that again with a really good teacher. Biology and Chemistry just seemed like a good fit. When I came to UNI, I was still kind of leaning more towards Biology and the study of the body. I combined interests to double major in Biology and Biochemistry.

### MINORS & CERTIFICATES

Whether you're a Biology major or a Biochemistry major, I think the programs pair well together. You can get minors or double majors in those areas, and they pair together well and overlap well. You could also add in a Physics minor which could be helpful, especially if you interested in kinetics or certain processes and reactions in the future that could help you on a like a micro-scale.

## INTERNSHIPS

Last summer, I had an internship at Eurofins in Des Moines. There they do nutritional analysis testing. They mostly work with feeds for cattle and other animals, and pet food. I worked primarily in the Splitting Department. I would get samples and the computer would tell me which departments needed how much of the sample, so I'd weigh it out and send it off to them. I also worked in the Lipids Department, and there I mostly shadowed but also assisted with some of the tests to try and figure out the fat content. There are different kinds of fats that they test for and extract so I was there as an extra set of hands for when they needed that.

## CAREERS

I am going to start graduate school in the fall. It's a five-year program for PhD and Pharmaceutics and after that, I'll look for an industry research lab job. I will hopefully be developing drug delivery methods such as vaccines, pills, patches, and anything like that. It entails a better comprehensive view of the body and synthesizing drugs and how to deliver that in the best way that would target the proper area of the body.