Associate in Applied Science Degree in Laboratory Science

Program Overview
If you are seeking a degree that will allow you to get a job right after graduation in the exciting field of life sciences as an entry-level laboratory technician, NECC’s Associate in Applied Science Degree in Laboratory Science is for you. Lab technicians prepare samples, run tests, troubleshoot and maintain instrumentation, and can also analyze data and communicate findings. If you have an interest in science (even if you have no background in science!), are hard-working, and willing to learn new skills, you have the qualities essential for success as a laboratory technician.

By completing the Laboratory Science Program at NECC, you will gain a strong theoretical background in chemistry and the associated sciences, learn technical lab skills and instrumental analysis, and acquire critical thinking and trouble-shooting skills. The program will also help you improve your communication, math, and science skills that are necessary for success in this field. The program has four concentrations to choose from – Biotechnology, Analytical Chemistry, Environmental Sciences, and Forensic Science.

Career Opportunities
Graduates will be able to pursue many career paths, and can work as entry-level laboratory technicians in drug companies, cellular technology companies, manufacturing companies, small environmental testing companies, the EPA, DEP, and other wildlife or state agencies. You could also transfer to a four-year college or university. Job prospects are very good and are expected to continue to grow.
Courses

Year 1, Fall Semester
- CIS110 or higher
- ENG101
- FYS101
- SCI100
- SCI105

Year 1, Spring Semester
- CHM121
- MAT120 or higher
- SCI106
- SCI230

Year 1, Fall Semester
- CHM201
- CHM203
- MAT125

Year 2, Spring Semester
- BIO230
- BIO280
- OR
- CHM280
- OR
- ERS280
- OR
- SCI280
- SCI281

Year 2, Summer Semester
- SCI291
- OR
- SCI292

Course Name
- Computer Science Elective
- English Composition I
- First Year Seminar
- Basic Laboratory Calculations
- Integrated Science I
- General Chemistry 1
- Math Elective
- Integrated Science II
- Advanced Forensic Science
- OR Elective
- Introduction to Organic & Biochemistry
- Instrumental Analysis
- Statistics
- Elective
- Cell Biology
- Research Seminar in Biotechnology
- Research Seminar in Analytical Chemistry
- Research Seminar in Environmental Science
- Research Seminar in Forensics
- Research Experience in Laboratory
- Elective
- Externship and Elective

Additional Opportunities

As a student in this program, you will complete an externship which provides you with real-world experience and prepares you for employment as an entry-level laboratory technician. This opportunity allows you to work in a professional laboratory, and gives you the opportunity to grow as a person and a professional.

Getting Started

Ready to get started? It's easy! Northern Essex has an open admissions policy, which means that if you have a high school diploma or GED you are eligible to enroll at NECC. Just fill out an application, attend an assessment session, and then register for classes.

Starting in fall 2014, any new student enrolled in an associate degree program must take at least one course designated as intensive in each of NECC's six core academic skills in order to graduate. See www.necc.mass.edu/core-skills.

For more information
Visit www.necc.mass.edu/programs, contact Marquerite White-Jenneau at 978-556-3345 or mwhitejenneau@necc.mass.edu, or contact Enrollment Services at 978-556-3700.