Why study science? Science underpins everything. It allows us to venture into the unknown. Its discoveries lead to tomorrow’s technologies. It is challenging. It develops problem-solving skills with wide application, making graduates valuable to diverse employers. It is fundamentally a global collaborative enterprise.

Why study science at Illinois Tech? Because it provides you all the benefits of a small university, coupled with major research capacity, and all the advantages of living in the great global city of Chicago.

YOU’RE IN GOOD COMPANY IN THE COLLEGE OF SCIENCE.

The College of Science feels like a small private school, but its research is major league. You’re in courses taught by more than 100 outstanding full-time faculty who are top scholars in their fields. That’s right. By faculty. Not by teaching assistants.

When you graduate, you’ll join a network of more than 10,000 alumni who work in business, government, and academic institutions all over the world.

SPEND TIME WITH REALLY SMART PEOPLE.

Our faculty are part of a global network of scholars in fundamental and applied science. Our alumni work in places from Silicon Valley to Shanghai. Our bright students come from all over the world. As a student, you’ll get access to networks of mentors, colleagues, and a lot of really influential people in your field.

RIGOR AND RELEVANCE.

These two words define the educational experience you will receive in the College of Science. Our programs are intellectually demanding and provide multiple pathways to the academic, professional, and entrepreneurial worlds. We will give you the tools to solve today’s problems and the knowledge to build the new tools to address tomorrow’s problems.

YOUR DEGREE HAS VALUE.

Our graduates are hired by companies with names everyone recognizes: Microsoft, Google, Orbitz, Argonne, Baxter, the Chicago Board of Trade, and Chase, to name just a few. And if you want to go on to earn a graduate degree in your field, you’ll be glad to know that our students have been accepted into prestigious programs from Oxford to Princeton.

CONDUCT RESEARCH THAT MATTERS.

Undergraduates in the College of Science get the opportunity to work on major research right from the start. You might participate in a professor’s research lab, work for a company on campus in University Technology Park, or do an internship in the city. Our new Elevate program consists of summer courses that allow all science undergraduates to experience research early in their careers at Illinois Tech (the summer after your first year, or the summer before your first year for transfer students). We also offer $5,000 Undergraduate Summer Research Stipends to select students. The university has strong partnerships with nearby Argonne National Laboratory, Fermilab, and other leading research institutions and universities.

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SEVENTEEN UNDERGRADUATE MAJORS

Nearly one in five Illinois Tech students earn a degree from the College of Science.

OUR UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN:

- Applied Mathematics
- Applied Physics
- Astrophysics
- Bioanalytical Chemistry
- Biochemistry
- Bioinformatics
- Biology
- Biology/Psychology Dual Degree
- Chemistry
- Computational Chemistry and Biochemistry
- Computer Information Systems
- Computer Science
- Environmental Chemistry
- Forensic Chemistry
- Medicinal Chemistry
- Molecular Biochemistry and Biophysics
- Physics

OUR SPECIAL ACADEMIC PROGRAMS INCLUDE:

- Pre-Medicine Program
- Honors Pharmacy
Jialing Xiang
Professor of Biology
M.D. Xuzhou Medical College
Ph.D. University of Alabama at Birmingham

Jialing Xiang’s research team discovered a powerful tumor suppressor found only in cancer cells, suggesting the possibility that sick cells can generate a previously unknown protein that might be able to stop tumors from growing.

Researchers have known for some time that a common protein in the body is a key component in programmed cell death—a way that the body rids itself of potentially cancerous cells. When the body fails to express the protein, it can give way to tumor formation and resistance to chemotherapy.

Xiang’s team discovered that, surprisingly, the combination of two “bad” things—two common occurrences in cancer—actually led to production of this new protein, which in studies showed signs of better response to certain chemotherapeutic drugs.

In addition to being a top researcher, Xiang has a system to identify potential undergrads to work in her lab and to tailor projects in her lab specifically so that each undergrad can meet his or her career goals. More than 95 percent of the undergrads who have worked with Xiang have successfully enrolled either in graduate school or found jobs after graduation.