

Exploring the Alchemy of Industrial Chemistry: A First-Year Odyssey

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Greetings to the vibrant community of IITH!

This is Shubham Nare, a BTech 1st year Industrial Chemistry student in the Department of Chemistry, and this is my experience, rather, my journey into the realm of Industrial Chemistry.

The first semester has been nothing short of exhilarating. Join me as I share some of the highlights and insights from this journey of academic exploration.

From my JEE preparation times, I was interested in chemistry. Majorly my interest and my rank were the key factors that made me choose Industrial Chemistry as my branch in IITH.

In our first sem, we had a bunch of courses, out of which only one of them was from my core courses. It was IOC-1 (Industrial Organic Chemistry). The initial weeks were marked by a fascinating introduction to the fundamental principles of organic chemistry, which we already learnt in class 12th, like Conjugation, Resonance, Alcohols, Phenols, Ethers, Polymers, etc. Further, we were taught about the application of chemistry on an industrial level. Like Raw materials, manufacturing and engineering are required in the Chemical process industry. Formation of Methanol, Formaldehyde Formic acid etc., at large-scale industrial level.

We also had other courses like ITP, where we were taught the basics of C programming. Calculus 1 and 2, as the name suggests, were courses related to calculus and math (in which I am least interested).

The second semester started with a lot of core subjects like quantum chemistry, Thermodynamics, Systematic Inorganic Chemistry and applications and Transport properties and Chemistry Lab. Hands-on experiments breathed life into the theories we had absorbed in lectures. Distillation setups, chromatography columns, and chemical reactions in action became a fun part of our regular coursework.



So this was all about academics; now let's dive into some non-academic stuff. As I entered the college, I was starstruck by the beauty of this IITH campus. Exploring campus alone at night became the favourite part of my routine. Initially, we were allotted double sharing rooms, but after a few months, we were shifted to single rooms. We celebrated a lot of festivals together, like Ganesh Chaturthi, Dussehra, Diwali, Makar Sankranti etc. I also learnt new things in this journey. Dussehra was the first time I learnt Garba. I also learnt how to operate a DSLR and video editing for the first time when IITH hosted the Yuva Sangam Phase 3. I was also a part of IInvenTive 2024: The largest R&D innovation fair of Higher Education.

In conclusion, the first semester in industrial chemistry has been a transformative journey marked by exploration, challenges, and triumphs. I look forward to the continued learning, growth, and camaraderie that the coming semesters promise.

I haven't planned a lot about my future plans. However, I am planning to pursue an MBA after 4 years of my BTech.



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