

Cheri Hodnett, MS, is an Assistant Professor of Chemistry in the Department of Chemical and Biochemical Sciences at Oakwood University in Huntsville, Alabama. She holds a Master of Science in Chemistry from the University of Saint Joseph (2022) and a Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry from Oakwood University (2015).

Cheri is a dedicated educator with experience in both lecture and laboratory courses, including Organic Chemistry, General Chemistry, and Biochemistry. She has been instructing at Oakwood University since 2011 while also contributed to the North Alabama Center for Educational Excellence by teaching high school introductory bridge courses in Chemistry, Physics, and Environmental Science during their summer program.

As a member of the American Chemical Society (ACS) since 2010, Cheri actively participates in professional development as she is also committed to fostering a supportive academic community as the Co-sponsor of the Oakwood University ACS Chemistry Club Chapter.

Cheri's research interests are diverse and impactful, encompassing several innovative projects driven by her passion for natural products. She is currently investigating the ***Preparation and Characterization of PCL-Collagen Polymer Blend*** for tissue replacement with biomimetic growth potential. In addition, she is exploring the bacteria inhibition properties of *Ceratotheca sesamoides* hot and cold aqueous tea extracts. Another fascinating project involves bridging the gap between pop culture and scientific discovery of Ambunu through the greenhouse cultivation of *Ceratotheca sesamoides*. Furthermore, Cheri is researching eczema and its link to the dysregulation of the JAK-STAT signaling pathway. Her work focuses on plant-based treatments, particularly *Ceratotheca sesamoides* (Ambunu), for their anti-inflammatory properties and potential as alternative therapies with fewer side effects.

Cheri's contributions to the field extend beyond the classroom. She has co-authored several lab manuals and e-books, focusing on green chemistry and innovative teaching methods. Her publications include "General Chemistry Part 1 Lab Manual First Term: A Green Approach" and "Practical Biochemistry in the Laboratory."

In addition to her academic roles, Cheri has assisted in the development and coordination of the annual STEAM and resilience camps in Toronto, Canada and serves as the Children's ministry Director at First Seventh day Adventist Church, Huntsville AL.

Cheri Hodnett is dedicated to education, research, and her community at large making her a valuable asset to Oakwood University and the broader scientific community.