

**Advanced Analytical Chemistry
CHEM 3220 (CRN 1923)
Fall Quarter, 2022**

Instructor: Dr. J. Alex Huffman
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Location: Olin 103

Class Time: Mon/Wed, 10:00 – 10:50 AM; in-person
Office Hours: None specifically posted / open door policy or via email/Zoom.

REQUIRED COURSE ITEMS

Textbook: No books required for purchase.
Reading materials will be scanned and distributed via Canvas.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Advanced Analytical Chemistry is a graduate/upper division undergraduate course and will combine portions of lecture with independent learning expected of advanced students. The course is somewhat of an overview of a few instrumental techniques widely utilized by chemists, but we will not have time in ten weeks to go in great detail in many areas. As a result of this limited time frame we will focus on a few selected areas to varying depths, but the course will focus most heavily on aspects of mass spectrometry (MS).

Whether your career path is one towards research, teaching, industry, or some other area of science, your marketability will depend on both your knowledge and your skill. Thus, the over-arching goals of this course are to further your knowledge of analytical chemistry and instrumentation as well as to help you practice your quantitative and independent thinking skills as well as beginning science communication skills. You will not always be told exactly what you need to know, but you will be given resources in order to help you make a reasoned decision and choose an appropriate path.

COURSE PRE-REQUISITES

The pre-requisites officially listed in the course catalog are CHEM 3210 (Instrumental Analysis) and CHEM 3621 (Physical Chemistry III). Please see Dr. Huffman within the first week if this is not the case.

COURSE STRUCTURE & FORMAT

The format of our meetings will follow a traditional lecture format. The lecture plan will be comprised of the following modules (in unequal measures):

- 1) The analytical process and general instrument basics
- 2) Fundamental chromatography
- 3) Mass spectrometry
- 4) Data analysis using indoor air monitors

Not all skills can be passed on via lecture and homework or tested via examination. Other critical skills for growing scientists will be developed in this course, including:

- 1) Quantitative reasoning
- 2) Scientific presentation, both oral and written

SCHEDULE & CANVAS

A course schedule will be provided and periodically updated as a pdf or Excel document posted on Canvas. All lecture notes will be posted on Canvas within approximately a few hours after the lecture. All assignments, solution sets, exams, and grades will be posted on Canvas as soon as available. Keep in mind that Canvas grades may need to be weighted by the scale given on page 3.

OFFICE HOURS

Feel free to come to my office and talk to me about any aspect of the course, or issues beyond. I will be happy to provide my perspective and advice wherever helpful.

Depending on your personality and background, coming to instructor office hours may be uncomfortable. Please know that I am happy to talk to you individually, and you do not need to wait until you have a major problem before coming to my office. You are welcome to come by and discuss at any time.

READING

Some, but not all, lectures will have associated reading assignments. A tentative/preliminary lecture and reading schedule is listed at the end of this syllabus. All readings will be made available on the Canvas site. You are not required to read all material listed. Please skim all readings and read more thoroughly the sections that are closest to what we discussed in class. Readings are also provided as a resource for assignments, and in this respect lecture material will NOT always discuss all material that you will examine within assignments.

GRADED ASSIGNMENTS

Assignments will be given periodically throughout the course. Problem-solving is an important component of all chemistry and most science courses. For most students, successfully solving problems requires practice. The given assignments will be designed to highlight important ideas and concepts, but will not necessarily reflect all types of problems you may encounter on an exam or in the real world.

It is okay to discuss assignment problems in small groups. In fact this is encouraged, because it will help you learn (teach each other, bounce ideas, etc.) and is relevant for preparing you for research. However, everyone is responsible for working out, understanding, and writing their own solution separately. If you don't go through the effort of understanding and solving every problem yourself (after discussion if you want) you will find yourself at a large disadvantage in the exams where you have to solve new problems quickly, and you will not take as much away from this course.

Proper written and oral presentation of your thoughts is also a key scientific skill and will be encouraged through this course. It is often a significant problem to "decode" writing on assignments and exams if the work is poorly organized, or if the writing is too small or messy. As such, Dr. Huffman will take points off for poor legibility. Please make an effort to be very clear in your communication, whether verbal or written. Consider the best way to present your information in each case. In some cases typing the assignment may be the most efficient presentation, and in other cases neatly hand-written work will be best. All assignments must be submitted electronically (whether scanned or typed). Please list units of all results in all cases. SI units are generally preferred.

EXAMS & QUIZZES

Two (2) exams will be given during the quarter: one mid-term exam and one cumulative final exam. Material chosen for these exams will be taken from lecture, readings, and research presentations. Only in extremely extenuating circumstances, and with required documentation (e.g., letter from Student Health), will a make-up exam be given. Please advise Dr. Huffman as soon as possible (minimum one week) if you will be out of town for a university sanctioned function (e.g. athletic team or music group).

Quizzes may be given, but notice will be provided (no pop quizzes). These will count in the assignment grade.

JOURNAL SKIM & ORAL PRESENTATION

One key skill required of research scientists is the ability to keep up-to-date with recent literature. Another ubiquitous skill required of all scientists is the ability to efficiently present scientific work. Students will practice these skills by periodically scanning recent literature and presenting material in two formats. Each of these assignments will be outlined in detail on subsequent assignment sheets and discussed in class:

- (1) Over the course of the quarter each student will be required to present two very short synopses of research articles. These will be very limited in length and will require students to convey only the very central themes of a research article. We will use these opportunities to expand the exposure to different analytical techniques.
- (2) Each student will also be assigned to present a topic in more depth. This will require literature research, self-learning, and presentation skills.

GRADES

Grading is absolute, and not curved. However, grades may be adjusted based on class performance. Grades will only be increased under this situation and never decreased. I would be very happy for everyone to receive an 'A', however, this grade will only be awarded if earned.

Late assignments will not be graded unless agreed on by Dr. Huffman ahead of time. If they are graded, the grade will be reduced by a minimum of 30% to discourage lateness. If you cannot come to class a day in which an assignment is due, you can (a) turn it in ahead of time or (b) send the file electronically to Dr. Huffman.

Please don't obsess about grades (especially in graduate school)! Indeed they are a measure of output and performance quality, but are much less important than you may often think. Grades should not become an end in themselves (the "professional student syndrome"), rather they should be a feedback tool to help you identify your strengths and weaknesses. You will be given the grade you earn, but historically most students have all done relatively well.

At the end of the quarter, you will be graded according to your performance based on the weighted average of the following course components:

<u>Category</u>	<u>Points</u>	
Assignments	350	35%
Exams (2)	300	30%
Journal Presentations (2)	180	18%
Research Presentation	150	15%
Participation and Discussion	20	2%
Total	1000	100%

Letter	Percentage
A	94.0 - 100
A -	90.0 - 93.9
B +	87.0 - 89.9
B	83.0 - 86.9
B -	80.0 - 83.9
C +	77.0 - 79.9
C	73.0 - 76.9
C -	70.0 - 72.9
D +	67.0 - 69.9
D	63.0 - 66.9
D -	55.0 - 62.9
F	< 54.9

ATTENDANCE POLICY

You are required to attend all lectures. However, I realize you are also adults with other life priorities that must be sometimes be balanced. Please do not stress if you need to miss a class lecture. You will be given some grace in attendance, but please notify Dr. Huffman with the reason you must missed a class.

COVID

DU has lessened almost all safety protocols with respect to COVID for Fall 2022. That said, I anticipate a wave of COVID absences across campus this Fall. As a result, we will remain flexible as things need to change. Please do NOT come to class if you are symptomatic or positive for COVID. I will make sure the material is available, as necessary. I may be able to set up a hybrid Zoom option on rare days when someone

must miss for sickness reasons. I will not play to offer hybrid lectures every day. The course will follow all university protocols, which may change throughout the quarter. See DU COVID site for info. Mask wearing is encouraged, especially if you feel you have been exposed to COVID or other infectious illnesses.

LIBRARY RESOURCES

The University Libraries Research Center answers research questions seven days a week by phone, email, in-person, chat/IM or text. One-on-one research consultations in the Anderson Academic Commons are also available on a drop-in basis or by appointment. Consultations help students at any stage of the research process, from refining a topic, to finding books and articles, to creating a bibliography with RefWorks. Ask a question or make an appointment at 303-871-2905 or research-help@du.edu, or contact Science Reference Librarian Naomi Bishop (303-871-4499, meg.eastwood@du.edu).

Chemistry-specific literature research resources can be found at: <http://libguides.du.edu/chemistry>.

CENTRAL UNIVERSITY POLICY AND RIGHTS

DU affirms: In all that we do, we strive for excellence, innovation, engagement, integrity and inclusiveness.

It is the on-going policy and practice of the University of Denver to provide equal opportunity to all students and employees. No person shall be discriminated against because of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, or veteran status. For more information, or if you feel your rights have been impinged upon, please see the following resources at the Office of Diversity and Equal Opportunity: <http://www.du.edu/deo/>; or the Office of Student Life: <http://www.du.edu/studentlife/>.

Dr. Huffman takes the effort to increase inclusiveness as a very important personal goal. I would be very happy to talk with you individually about how I and the university can better support you as a student.

RELIGIOUS ACCOMODATIONS

University policy grants students excused absences from class or other organized activities or observance of religious holy days, unless the accommodation would create an undue hardship. Faculty will be responsive to requests when students contact them *in advance* to request such an excused absence. Students are responsible for completing assignments given during their absence, but will be given an opportunity to make up work missed because of religious observance.

It is your responsibility to examine the course syllabus for potential conflicts with holy days and notify Dr. Huffman by the end of the first week of classes of any conflict that may require an absence (including any required additional preparation/travel time). You will also be responsible to make arrangements to make up any missed work or in-class material within a reasonable amount of time.

DISABILITY ACCOMODATIONS

Any student who feels s/he may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact me privately to discuss your specific needs. Please also feel welcomed to contact the Disability Services Program (303-871-2278 / 7432 / 2455) located on the 4th floor of Ruffatto Hall to coordinate reasonable accommodation for your disability or medical issue. For further information, please see their website: <http://www.du.edu/disability/dsp/index.html>. See the *Handbook for Students with Disabilities*.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY & STUDENT SUPPORT

While I advocate collaborative learning and teamwork, I also firmly believe that each individual should maintain the highest ethical standards in all of life's endeavors. As such, I support and will strictly enforce the Honor Code of the University of Denver. See links for specific links below:

Pioneer Pledge: <http://www.du.edu/studentlife/ccs/pledge.html>

Honor Code Statement: http://www.du.edu/studentlife/ccs/honor_code_2011-2012.pdf

I also understand that every student has unique personal and educational needs. I will do my best to help you learn or appropriately facilitate your ability to work through personal issues. Please see the Office of Student Life including the Pioneer Care program (<http://www.du.edu/studentlife/care/>), for more detailed resources.