

**Chemistry of the Elements Laboratory**  
**Chem 2141**  
**Spring Quarter, 2019**

**Instructor:** Prof. Todd Wells  
 Office hours: By appointment in SGM 130  
 Email: [towells@du.edu](mailto:towells@du.edu)

**Teaching Assistants:** There will be a Graduate Teaching Assistant (GTA) and an Undergraduate Teaching Assistant (UTA) in each lab section. These teaching assistants will have scheduled times that they will be available outside of lab to help you understand the concepts, perform calculations, etc.

Section	Time	Day	Room	TA	Email
1	2:00-4:50	M	222	Ana Franklin	Ana.Franklin@du.edu
2	2:00-4:50	M	235	Alan Weisgerber	Alan.Weisgerber@du.edu
3	2:00-4:50	R	222	Alan Weisgerber	Alan.Weisgerber@du.edu
4	6:00-8:50	M	235	Aigera Mendauletova	Aigera.Mendauletova@du.edu
5	2:00-4:50	T	222	Justin Shady	Justin.Shady@du.edu
6	2:00-4:50	T	235	Andres Sola	Andres.Sola@du.edu
7	6:00-8:50	T	222	Justin Shady	Justin.Shady@du.edu
8	2:00-4:50	R	235	Aigera Mendauletova	Aigera.Mendauletova@du.edu
9	2:00-4:50	W	222	Ana Franklin	Ana.Franklin@du.edu
10	2:00-4:50	W	235	Andres Sola	Andres.Sola@du.edu

**Laboratory Manual** - Available on the CHEM 2141 CANVAS website.

**Lab Notebook** - All observations should be recorded in a bound laboratory notebook, or directly into the computer. If data is recorded into the computer, a paper copy (e.g., a print out) must be made before you leave the lab, and this becomes part of the lab notebook. The lab notebook recommended for the course, available in the bookstore, makes two copies as you write. However, a composition notebook or the notebook you used in last quarters lab are also acceptable. **The GTA must initial your lab notebook at the end of each lab session. It is your responsibility to show your notebook to the GTA and get it initialed.**

CHEM 2131, Chemistry of the Elements, (the lecture course) is a corequisite for CHEM 2141 (the lab course) and students who register for 2141 are also expected to register for 2131.

Week of Experiment	Experiment
April 1	Check-in/Inorganic Nomenclature
April 8	Werner Cobalt Ammine Complex
April 15	Werner Cobalt Ammine Complex... Continued
April 22	Synthesis of Al (acac) <sub>3</sub> and Synthesis of Co (acac) <sub>3</sub>
April 29	UV/Vis of acac complexes and Prussian Blue (cyanotypes)
May 6	<b>Synthesis of aquapentaamminecobalt(III) Nitrate*</b>
May 13	<b>Determination of K<sub>a</sub> of [Co(NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>5</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)]<sup>3+</sup> *</b>
May 20	Electrochemistry
May 27	<b>Descriptive Chemistry</b>
June 3	Finish-up and Check-out

\*Labs shown in bold require full Lab Reports.

**Computers** - You will be using your laptop in the laboratory every week, including the first week.

**How to succeed in this course** - In prior years, some students have spent much more time in the laboratory than is intended, apparently largely because they were unprepared to do the laboratory work when they came to the lab, and/or did not think about what they were doing in the lab. You cannot successfully "cookbook" this lab or sleep walk through it.

**Be prepared for lab sessions**

- Plan your work.
- Understand what concepts each laboratory experiment is intended to help you learn.

- Do the “Prelab” exercises well before the day of the laboratory.
- Understand the calculations you will perform to analyze your data, and how the data you will acquire is used in the calculations.
- Learn how to create Excel spreadsheets, perform calculations, plot graphs, etc.
- If an Excel spread sheet is going to be used in the lab, set it up before you come to lab.
- Think about what you are doing.
- Work safely. Think about the safety aspects of your actions.
- Follow the guidelines for writing in your lab notebook.
- Follow the guidelines for writing your lab reports.
- Answer all questions you are supposed to answer.

### Safety

- The lab manual contains some brief guidelines.
- The Graduate Teaching Assistant has absolute authority on matters of safety. If the GTA judges that you cannot work safely in the laboratory, you may be asked to leave the lab. No opportunity to make up a missed lab will be provided if you miss for safety reasons.
- Fashion changes faster than safety guidelines can be rewritten! Think. Layers of clothing are your primary protection against spilled reagents or broken glass. The laboratory is designed to minimize hazards, but safety is ultimately your responsibility.
- Since students in this lab work with aqueous solutions, experience is that wet floors are the major hazard. If you spill water on the floor, clean it up or call it to the attention of the GTA or UTA and warn other students who may be nearby.

Perform and preserve backups of your computer files. Disasters do happen with computers! It is your responsibility to be sure that you preserve all of the original data acquired in this course and files, such as Excel spread sheets, that you prepare. It is good practice to make a paper copy of spectra and spread sheets before you leave the lab. There is a campus printer available in Olin 105, to which you can print via Ethernet. If you do not have the appropriate software to use DU campus printers, you will need to obtain the software from the Help Desk in Penrose Library.

**Working together** - In several labs we will encourage you to share equipment. For example, we will have 10 UV/Vis spectrometers and possibly as many as 20 students in a lab section. Each student should record all data into their own laboratory notebook and into computer files as appropriate. When data is recorded in computer files, the laboratory notebook should describe the information in the computer file, and record the name of the file. A paper copy of the computer file should be printed and taped into the lab notebook, as well as turned in as part of your lab report.

Regardless of how much you are told to share or work together in acquiring data, your lab report is to be entirely your own work.

**If you miss a lab** - If illness or a university-sponsored activity causes you to miss a lab, as early as possible seek to schedule a time that you can make it up during another regularly-scheduled lab (there are 7 each week). Except by special arrangement with the Graduate Teaching Assistant, reagents and apparatus will be available only during the week in which the lab is scheduled.

**Deadlines** - Prelab exercises must be completed before you come to the laboratory. ***You will not be given credit for late Prelab exercises.*** It is important that you write up your lab reports while information is fresh in your mind. Lab reports are due during the week shown in the lab schedule. The GTA’s will grade and return your lab reports at least 24 hours before your next lab report is due. This will give you time to make any last minutes corrections based on feedback from the GTA’s. **Late lab reports will receive a deduction of 10% per day and will not be accepted after 4 days.**

### Course Grading

Lab notebooks/technique (5 pts each week)	40 pts
Prelabs 7 x 20 pts	140 pts
Lab Worksheets 5 x 100 pts	500 pts
Full Lab Reports 2 x 120 pts	240 pts

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total possible points	<b>920 pts</b>
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