

Virtual Instrumental Analysis  
Chemistry 3210 (4 credit hours)  
Spring 2020  
Location: anywhere and everywhere

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Office Hours: Will announce online. Office hours will take place via Zoom or by Phone. I am open to whatever is more convenient to you.  
The Office hour url is:  
<https://udenver.zoom.us/my/brianjmajestic>

**Course Description:** This is a second course in analytical chemistry for Chemistry majors and other advanced students with a Chemistry emphasis. The purpose of this class is to provide students with an overview of modern chemical instrumentation: what the devices are, how they work, what design features are important, and applications to chemical problems. The class will begin with a review of some fundamental issues of importance in all instrumental analytical chemistry, and will subsequently provide a brief overview of the major areas of spectroscopy, chromatography, and, time permitting, electrochemistry.

**Course Objectives:** The student should complete this course having obtained an overview of modern instrumental analytical chemistry. The student should be familiar with modern chemical instrumentation and its underlying physical/chemical principles. The student should be capable of selecting appropriate techniques for solving specific problems in analytical chemistry, and should have an understanding of pertinent interferences, limitations, quality assurance practices, and procedures for evaluating the accuracy and precision of the resulting data.

Sometimes the lectures will be somewhat general and it will be up to the student to fill in the gaps to truly understand the details. BOTTOM LINE: Pace yourself and continuously work from beginning to end. Even if you think a topic is easy, I recommend that you put in extra time to make sure you understand the details that may not be presented in lecture. This especially applies to the first part of the course as it is applicable to everything we do. Students are expected to put in 2-3 hrs outside of class per credit. The lecture section of CHM 3210 is a 3-hr course, so the class is designed such that ~ 6-9 hrs of your time outside of class is focused on this course.

**Course Format:** For the sake of being able to distribute information in the most equitable fashion, new content will be delivered asynchronously. Usually, the instructor will prepare lecture videos and upload them to Canvas. Then, you can download and watch at your leisure. We will have some (maybe 1-2 times per week) synchronous times together via Zoom, where you can ask real-time questions about the material.

**Grading:** To help assess the knowledge you have gained from Chemistry 3210, you will be evaluated based on your performance in several areas:

**Homework:** No graded homework. However, I strongly recommend reviewing questions from the book.

**Quizzes (30 % of your grade):** Short (~ 5 min) quizzes will be administered randomly throughout the quarter, but you can expect one on at least 15 of the class periods. Each quiz may be on past lectures or on reading for the day's lecture. **There will be ~15 quizzes and only the top 11 will count towards your final grade.** If you take < 11 quizzes, then I will have to average in "zeroes." **These quizzes will be timed quizzes on Canvas and will be available for 8-10 min only, beginning at 9:00 Colorado time, or after a synchronous discussion, if one is planned for that day.** There are no make-ups for missed quizzes. The dropped quizzes allows for a reasonable amount of illness, bad hair days, missed alarm clocks, etc. If you are not able to make this timing, then please let me know so we can work something else out.

**Exams (30 % [15 % each] of your grade):** Two 50 min exams will be administered during class-time. Logistics will follow...

**Final Exam/Paper (20 % of your grade):** In lieu of a Final Exam, we will have a quarter-long paper. This will be a research paper, focusing on an instrumental technique that we had NOT covered during the quarter. Some possibilities include:

- Capillary Electrophoresis
- Small Angle x-ray scattering (SAX)
- Anodic (and cathodic) stripping voltammetry
- Electron paramagnetic resonance spectroscopy (assuming you are not pursuing research in this area)

- Other possibilities are OK and encouraged, but please clear with me if you choose to go off-list.

Your paper should focus on the following:

1. The relevant theory of operation
2. How does the instrument work? That is, what components perform what functions?
3. Recent (2018+) applications of the technique.

Important Dates:

- Wed, April 8: Propose a topic (a simple email is fine)
- Friday, April 10: I will approve or deny the proposal
- Monday, May 4: Deadline for the required a check-in meeting with Dr. M (by Zoom)
- Wed, May 20: Optional rough draft due. If you would like me to provide comments on your draft, then this is the last day to turn it in.
- Tues, June 9, 5:00 pm, Denver Time: Final Draft due

Technical Details:

- 4-6 pages
- Double spaced
- 12 pt Times New Roman **or** 11 pt Arial
- 1" x 1" margins (this is NOT the default in MS Word).

For the paper, you need **at least** five references, only **two** of which can be from reputable web sites. The others must be primary research articles. In general, a ".gov" site is OK (EPA, USGS), in addition to some international agencies such as UNEP and the WHO. Some ".com" sites may be OK, but talk to me if you have questions about the integrity of a specific site.

**Laboratory (20 % of your grade):** There will be 3-4 laboratory experiments. These will be a combination of providing data and running instrument simulations. The labs are only loosely coordinated with the lecture, so this will sometimes require significant preparation on your part! Be sure to give yourself plenty of time to familiarize yourself with the techniques and pre-lab assignments. Note that some pre-lab assignments are more involved than just taking 10 min before lab to finish. There is a separate lab hand-out for each assignment – all of which

are posted on Canvas. It is important to note that **a failing grade in the lab will automatically correspond to a failing grade in the course.**

**Final Grades:** This class is NOT based on a curve. Thus, you are not competing against each other. If everyone exceeds the required threshold, then everyone can earn an "A" in this course. The letter grades are detailed below.

A	> 92.99 %
A-	> 89.99 %
B+	> 86.99 %
B	> 82.99 %
B-	> 79.99 %
C+	> 73.99 %
C	> 68.99 %
C-	> 64.99 %
D+	> 61.99 %
D	> 57.99 %
D-	> 53.99 %
F	< 53.99 %

I reserve the right to make downward adjustments to this scale (i.e. adjustments in the direction of leniency). In no event will the actual scale used be adjusted upward from that described above.

### **Resources:**

**Textbook:** Quantitative Chemical Analysis (QCA), 9<sup>th</sup> Ed. Daniel C. Harris is required. Other instrumental textbooks will also work (like Skoog), if you happen to have one from somewhere else.

**Me:** Email me anytime with questions about the course or the material. If my office hours do not fit your schedule, then I can easily make myself available. My email address is [brian.majestic@du.edu](mailto:brian.majestic@du.edu). Just email me.

**Lecture Notes and Powerpoint Slides:** Most lectures will be a Powerpoint presentation. These will be posted on Canvas, along with the lecture videos. Lecture will move at a relatively rapid pace, so it will benefit you to download these and have them handy prior to lecture.

**Each Other:** You are more than welcome to collaborate with each other in groups. However, each paper turned in **must be your own work**. Please review the **DU Code of Academic Honesty** as you will be strictly held to this. It is also encouraged that you form study groups. As in the “real-world,” Chemistry 3210 does not need to be an individual experience. Most of the time, very little gets done without the help of others and team-work is a great skill to learn.

**Supplementary Resources:** In addition to the textbook and class presentations, you will have the opportunity (and expectation) to consult other resources. These will consist of websites (instrumentation manufacturers, laboratories, trade associations, government sites, user groups, and list-servers), electronically available journals, and paper-based journals. Most journal articles are available in electronic format and may be printed and/or stored in journal publication format as \*.pdf. Two examples of where to look are as follows: **A) the ACS journals (pubs.acs.org) are available from any DU-based URL; and B) many other journals are available free of charge from www.sciencedirect.com, a service which the DU library subscribes to.** Sciencedirect is available without a personal account from any campus-based URL; however, you can access it from off-campus through the DU library’s website with proxy identification. Databases such as Google Scholar (scholar.google.com) can be a good place to start with a keyword search for material on a specific subject or author.

**Academic Integrity:** You will notice that, in the lectures, I credit any sources which provide images, content, or text. In CHEM 3210, we take cases of academic dishonesty very seriously. Note that academic dishonesty is not limited to plagiarism or copying another student’s work. It also includes behaviors such as giving false reasons for missing a lab or exam or hiding the fact that other students are knowingly practicing academic dishonesty. All students are expected to abide by the University of Denver Honor Code. These expectations include the application of academic integrity and honesty in your class participation and assignments.

The DU Honor Code is found here:

[http://www.du.edu/studentlife/advising/fsem\\_handbook\\_docs/UniversityofDenverHonorCode.pdf](http://www.du.edu/studentlife/advising/fsem_handbook_docs/UniversityofDenverHonorCode.pdf)

**Lecture and Testing Accommodations:** I will make every effort to accommodate students diagnosed with a learning disability. I will do this in complete confidence. I do, however, request that any student requiring these accommodations inform me the first week of class. For further information, please see the University Disability Services's website:  
<http://www.du.edu/disability/dsp/index.html>.

**Course Outline (This is VERY rough and should only be used as a guide - subject to change)**

**Material for Exam 01:**

**Introduction: What's in a data point?**

Quantitative vs qualitative measurements  
Basic Instrumental Components  
Sample considerations  
Analyte considerations  
Review of basic statistics  
Precision, bias, and accuracy  
Errors in chemical analysis: random and systematic errors  
Propagation of uncertainty  
Proper use of significant figures  
Calibration processes and practices: external calibration, method of standard additions, internal standardization  
S/N ratio  
Detection limits  
Types of noise and S/N improvement

**Intro to Spectroscopy**

The electromagnetic spectrum  
Energy, frequency, wavelength, wavenumbers  
Properties of light  
Energy level diagrams  
Types of atomic spectral measurements: emission, absorption, fluorescence  
Spectrometric processes: absorption, emission, fluorescence, phosphorescence  
Spectral purity and spectral resolution  
Monochromators and polychromators  
Bandwidth, slit width, resolving power, and resolution  
Emission spectrometry and absorption spectrometry  
Beer's Law and its limitations  
Multicomponent analysis  
Total internal reflection and fiber optics  
Attenuated total reflection and diffuse reflectance  
Derivative spectrometry  
Diffraction and diffraction gratings  
The monochromator  
Light sources for the UV, visible, and IR  
Light detectors

## **Spectroscopy for Elemental Analysis**

Atomic linewidths  
Atom cells: the flame, ETV furnace as atom cells  
Sample introduction processes  
Properties of flames  
Atomization in flames  
Flame hardware  
Electrothermal atomization and hardware  
Specialized atomization techniques  
Instrumentation for AAS  
Interferences, problems in AAS; background correction methods  
Techniques and applications of AAS  
Atomic fluorescence spectroscopy  
Advantages and disadvantages of high-energy plasma sources  
The inductively coupled plasma  
The three-electrode DC plasma jet  
Microwave induced plasmas  
DC and RF glow discharges  
Instrumentation for atomic emission spectroscopy  
Techniques and applications of ICP spectroscopy  
Arc, spark, and flame emission sources  
Nature of X-Rays  
Sources  
Absorption  
Monochromators, filters, and detectors  
X-Ray fluorescence instrumentation  
XRF techniques and applications  
X-Ray diffraction instruments and applications  
Electron microprobes and X-ray microanalysis

## **Vibrational Spectroscopy**

Molecular basis for IR, Raman  
IR sources and detectors  
FTIR spectrometers  
Sample presentation methods  
Applications to structural elucidation  
Quantitative analysis via IR absorption spectrophotometry  
The near-IR region: instrumentation and applications  
Raman scattering and Raman spectra  
Dispersive and FT Raman spectrometers  
Applications of Raman spectroscopy

## **Material for Exam 02:**

### **Mass spectrometry**

Overview, purposes of MS  
Ion sources  
Ion detectors  
Mass analyzers  
Magnetic sectors  
Quadrupoles

Time-of-flight  
FT/ICR, ion traps  
Applications: structural elucidation  
Interpretation of electron impact mass spectra of organic compounds

### **Introduction to chromatographic separations**

Purposes; classification of methods  
Examining the chromatogram  
Equilibria - the basis for retention  
Partitioning, resolution, dispersion  
Effect of mobile phase flowrate  
Qualitative identification via chromatography  
Quantitative analysis via chromatography  
Zone broadening: the van Deemter Equation and HETP

### **Liquid chromatography**

Types of separation methods  
Role of chemical variables  
Effects of temperature  
Particle size, column size, pressure drop, and HETP  
Instrumentation  
Detection methods  
LC-MS systems  
Planar chromatography  
Preparative liquid chromatography  
Applications

### **Gas chromatography**

Applicability  
Retention volumes and partition coefficients  
Instrumentation  
Types of columns  
Sample injection methods  
Detection methods  
Qualitative identification and retention indices  
GC-MS systems  
Applications of gas chromatography  
Sample preparation for gas chromatography