

Analysis of Equilibrium Systems Laboratory
CHEM 2041
Winter Quarter, 2017

GENERAL INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. Ogar Ichire
Office hours: By appointment in Olin 203
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Teaching Assistants: There will be a Graduate Teaching Assistant (GTA) 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.

Learning Goals

Analysis of Equilibrium Systems (CHEM 2011/2041) introduces chemical equilibria and kinetics. The emphasis is on aqueous solutions because of their importance in living systems and in environmental science. In this course, you will learn about the species that exist in aqueous solution, and the equilibria involving these species. You will learn how to calculate and measure pH, solubility, and metal complexation equilibria.

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 safety guidelines. But I expect you to research on the safety of each chemical/solution you will be working with for the lab. Safety information can be found in the Safety Data Sheet (SDS) document for each chemical on most vendor’s website (e.g. www.sigmaaldrich.com)

- 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.

Laboratory Experiments and Final

Look for experiments each week on the Canvas portal. The lab final may involve giving you an “unknown” solution and instructions to perform the type of analysis you did in one of the lab sessions as appropriate to the sample. You will have to figure out by some simple measurements on the sample what type of sample it is, and thus, what type analysis you should perform. You will only be able to use your lab notebook for the lab final.

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 specified for the course is available in the bookstore, be sure to make two copies as you write. One of these copies stays in the bound book, and the other is turned in as part of your lab reports. 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.

Computers

Your laptop computer is a valuable tool for interfacing with the laboratory equipment and doing data analysis. Please remember to bring your laptop to lab every week.

You are expected to perform and preserve backups of your computer files. Disasters do happen with computers! It is your responsibility to be sure that you preserve all 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 spectrometers, pH meters, burets, etc. For example, we will have 10 spectrometers and 10 pH measurement systems and possibly as many as 20 students in a lab section. For some titrations we will suggest that you share burets to save on reagents and save time. However, 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 8 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 at the beginning of the lab period one week after you performed the lab. 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 not be accepted.

Course Grading

Lab notebooks = 40 pts

Lab technique (60) safety monitor (40) =100 pts

Prelab 6 x 10 = 60 pts

lab reports/Excel exercise 6 x 100 = 600 pts

lab final - practical 1 x 200 = 200 pts

total possible points = **1000 pts**

Grade	Range	Grade	Range
A	100 – 94 %	C-	<74 – 70%
A-	<94 – 90%	D+	<70 – 67%
B+	<90 – 87%	D	<67 – 64%
B	<87 – 84%	D-	<64 – 61%
B-	<84 – 80%	F	<60 – 0%
C+	<80 – 77%		
C	<77 – 74%		

Tentative Schedule

Weeks & Experiments		Experiment
Wk 1 _ 01/3		Check-in
Wk 2 _ 01/10	E1	Glassware Calibration, Spreadsheets, and Laboratory Data Analysis
Wk 3 _ 01/17	E2	Solubility Product Constant
Wk 4 _ 01/24	E3	Standardization of Acids and Bases
Wk 5 _ 01/31	E4	Weak acid mixtures and Polyprotic Acids
Wk 6 _ 02/6	E5	Ascorbic Acid – Redox Titration
Wk 7 _ 02/13	E6	Reaction Kinetics – Decolorization of Crystal Violet
Wk 8 _ 02/20		Lab Practical
Wk 9 _ 02/27		Check-out