CHEM 201: Advanced Chemistry Laboratory

Chem 201 Syllabus - Spring 2017

Course Description:

What the UVM Catalogue says about CHEM 201 - Advanced Chemistry Laboratory: "Discussion and laboratory experiments using spectroscopy techniques (m

Office hours:

Scheduled per student need

UVM Policy on Absences:

Religious Holidays: Students have the right to practice the religi on of their choice. Students should submit in writing by the end of the 2nd full week of classes their documented religious holiday schedule for the semester if ther e are any conflicts with the c lass or laboratory schedule.

Inter-collegiate Athletics: Members of UVM varsity and junior varsity teams are responsible for documenting in writing any conflicts between their planned athletic schedule and the class (& labo ratory) schedule by the end of the 2nd full week of classes.

UVM Policy on Academic Integrity:

Offenses against the Code of Academic Inte grity are deemed serious and insult the in tegrity of the entire academic community. Any suspected violations of the code are taken very seriously an d will be forwarded to the Center for Student Ethics & Standard s for further investigation. Details

How the course grade is determined:

	Points	
Written lab reports (5 x50 points each - see link on lab reports)	250	72%
Oral lab report (1 x50)	50	14%
Lab performance and lab notebook	30	8%
Participation during oral presentations	20	6%
Total:	350	100%

Failure to submit a lab report: any missing lab report will be assigned a grade of -40 points.

Update the literature used for the various labs.

Get info

Lab oral presentation:

Communication skills are critical to success in a career in science. Everyone has to present their work during their careers. Here is a perfect opportunity for you to begin in a less threatening environment.

Each student chooses one of the six laboratory experiments to present

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Chem 201 Lab Reports: What is required

The five written lab reports comprise 75% of your grade. Thus, the preparation of the lab reports is expected to take a significant amount of your time spent in the course. For the wise student, much of the time spent should be spent prior to the lab:

1. Understanding the goals of the lab and what will happen in the lab before you get there
2. Learning the underlying chemistry to be done in the lab
3. Learning the principles of the instrumentation to be used
4. Thinking about what data sets are to be acquired
5. Thinking about what calculations will be performed
6. And thinking about what interpretations can be made from the calculations.

Your written reports should reflect mastery of these points for each lab.

Each formal, written lab report is due 2 weeks after the lab is scheduled to have been completed. Submit your reports directly to the TA in charge of the lab.

The Good News and the Bad News:

- The bad news: you lose 1 point (2% of your grade) for each weekday-day that you are late, where 10% represents a change in letter grade.
- The good news: you receive 1 bonus point for each weekday-day that you hand in your lab report ahead of the due date.

The format we use for the written reports is as close as we can make it to the format that you would use if you were submitting a manuscript for publication to a journal. The skills you will develop in writing these reports will carry over to anything else you do in science beyond this course. Good writing skills are as important to the successful scientist as good bench-skills--perhaps more important because if you cannot communicate effectively the results of your work, they will die of ennui in the back drawer of a filing cabinet or in the middle of a dusty 3rd-class journal on a library shelf.

PDF of the instructions for preparing your lab reports

Yes, it is confusing to organize and write a lab report in manuscript format for the first time. The problem is organization: getting your thoughts organized, getting your data organized, & getting your words in an organized fashion. Probably the most difficult part is figuring out which of all the data you collected in a lab should be included in Tables and Figures and which are supplementary and should only be included as Appendix material. That's where the organization part comes in. The only way to get organized is by trying. It will get easier as you write up successive laboratories.

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CHEM 201: Advanced Chemistry Laboratory
Oral Presentation: What is required for Chem 201
Instructions for preparing your