

## Chemistry: *Spring 2025 Course Syllabus*

[NJIT Academic Integrity Code](#): All Students should be aware that the Department of Chemistry & Environmental Science (CES) takes the University Code on Academic Integrity at NJIT very seriously and enforces it strictly. This means that there must not be any forms of plagiarism, i.e., copying of homework, class projects, or lab assignments, or any form of cheating in quizzes and exams. Under the University Code on Academic Integrity, students are obligated to report any such activities to the Instructor.

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### COURSE INFORMATION

**CHEM 221 Course Description:** The objective of this course is to teach the students the science of chemical measurements. Often, scientists and engineers are faced with the question, what is in a given sample, and how much? Chemical measurement or analytical chemistry is the systematic study of methods which can be used to answer these questions.

This course has been designed for students taking their first laboratory course in quantitative methods of chemical analysis. The topics covered fall under the general category of Analytical Chemistry. By the end of the semester, the students are expected to have acquired fundamental knowledge to prepare them to embark upon a rational approach to qualitative and quantitative analysis. After reviewing the large number of topics and experiments that could have been included here, we have selected a small set of diverse experiments that we believe will provide fundamental knowledge of various popular and powerful analytical techniques. These experiments include data evaluation, gravimetric, complexometric/volumetric/potentiometric titration, and UV-Vis molecular spectrophotometry.

It will be to the student's advantage to continue to read and reread the chapters in their textbooks on laboratory techniques throughout the semester. There are also some practical aspects of chemical analysis that are best learnt during the experiments. For example, you will learn that one should not use a graduated cylinder for accurate volumetric measurements, and that solids are best dissolved in a beaker covered with a watch glass. The laboratory professor or teaching assistant (TA) will usually explain and/or demonstrate these and many more techniques which have been used successfully over the years.

Students are encouraged to ask questions before it is too late and the mistakes have already been committed.

**Number of Credits:** 2

**Prerequisites:** CHEM 222

## Course-Section and Instructors

Course-Section	Instructor
CHEM 221-004	Dr. Hao Chen <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:hao.chen.2@njit.edu">hao.chen.2@njit.edu</a> <b>Telephone:</b> 973-596-8571 <b>Office:</b> York office 232

Laboratory time: Wed 08:30 AM - 12:50 PM, Tiernan Hall Room 208 (In person)

Office Hours: **With an appointment**  
**Please send an email to schedule an appointment.**

**E-Mail:** All E-mail to me should start with CHEM 221 in the subject so that it can be filtered appropriately. Any e-mail pertaining to your academic standing (i.e., grades) must be sent from your NJIT account. Anonymous e-mail will not be read.

**Lab manual is required.** CHEM 221, *Analytical Methods Laboratory Manual*, available from the NJIT bookstore.

**Reference Textbook:** *Quantitative Chemical Analysis*, 10<sup>th</sup> Ed., D.C. Harris, MPS, 2020, ISBN: 9781319384807

**Secondary reference:** *Fundamentals of Analytical Chemistry*, ninth edition, by Douglas A. Skoog, Donald M. West, F. James Holler, and Stanley R. Crouch, Brooks/Cole 2014, ISBN-10 0-495-55832-X.

### Other required material:

- Hard-cover laboratory notebook
- Lab coat (white color, available online)
- Safety goggles (available at the NJIT Bookstore or Home Depot)
- Disposable nitrile gloves (available online or at Home Depot)

**Students are RESPONSIBLE of bringing their own PPE (Lab Coat, Safety Goggles & Nitrile Gloves) to the lab.**

## POLICIES

All CES students must familiarize themselves with, and adhere to, all official university-wide student policies. CES takes these policies very seriously and enforces them strictly.

**Grading Policy:** The final grade in this course will be determined as follows:

Grades	
Attendance	5%
Safety and cleanliness	5%
PreLab	10%
Quizzes	20%
Laboratory reports	50%
Oral presentation	10%

Your final letter grade in this course will be based on the following tentative curve:

<b>A</b>	90-100	<b>C</b>	70-75
<b>B+</b>	86-89	<b>D</b>	60-69
<b>B</b>	80-85	<b>F</b>	<60
<b>C+</b>	76-79		

The experiments will be conducted as a group of 2 students, as chosen by the instructor. Laboratory reports will be a group assignment, and each group will do an oral presentation on one of the experiments at the end of the semester. Each student is required to attend and participate in the laboratory in person. Each student needs to record his/her own notes in their laboratory notebook and helping in keeping the lab safe and clean. In addition, quizzes will be given to each student.

**Attendance and laboratory notebook usage:** Attendance to all laboratory sessions is mandatory. A missed laboratory session without an excused absence will result in a grade of zero (0) for that experiment. A second unexcused absence will result in a grade of zero (0) for the course. An excused absence must be obtained from the instructor before the relevant lab. An excused absence will only be granted for verifiable documented reasons of serious illness or family emergency. Students will be asked to sign the attendance sheet each week when arriving in lab.

**Lateness to lab will NOT be tolerated** (changes in directions/safety concerns may be given during the pre-laboratory lecture). The instructor reserves the right to dismiss you from the lab and you get a ZERO for the week. College policy states that students must notify faculty within the first three weeks of the semester if they anticipate missing any classes due to religious observance.

Students working in the same group must arrive in lab and begin the experiment at the same time. All students must remain in lab until the experiment is completed. Students working in the same group can perform the experiment together, work on calculations together, but each of them must be filling their own notebook.

See below for the guidelines to good laboratory notebook practices. The completeness and accuracy of the notebook will be checked by the instructor at the end of each lab, and its proper usage during the lab period will be checked before students leave.

**Safety and cleanliness:** Wear your safety goggles at all times while in the laboratory. Clothing that covers your legs and shoulders is required. No shorts or skirts. Everyone will be required to wear lab coats and gloves during all experiments. Closed shoes must be worn at all times. Food or drinks are not allowed in the lab. Turn off cell phones and do not use them in the lab. Properly dispose of waste materials. Clean up your workspace at the end of each lab session and wash your hands prior to leaving the laboratory.

**Prelab:** Please note that each student needs to prepare 1 page summary of the lab goal and procedure before starting the lab. This is due at the beginning of each lab.

**Quizzes:** There will be two quizzes during the semester. They will each be worth 10% of your grade and can cover any material or safety procedures covered in the course.

**Laboratory reports:** Each group must submit their lab report one week after the end of each experiment. There are 9 lab reports due and they are worth a total of 50% of the grade. Laboratory reports can be submitted to the instructor and TA via email. Detailed guidelines for writing laboratory reports can be found at the end of this syllabus.

**Oral presentation:** Each group will present one of the 9 experiments during a 15-20 minutes presentation during the last lab session of the semester. These presentations will occur on Zoom, and the student groups will need to submit their presentation ahead of time and present it online. This group presentation will be worth 10% of the final grade.

**Email Policy:** In accordance with College policy, the instructor will use your NJIT email address (@njit.edu) and

Canvas to communicate with you about all course-related matters. Please make sure that you check these accounts regularly.

**Make-up Laboratory or Quizzes Policy:** There will be **no make-up laboratories or quizzes** during the semester. In the event that a student has a legitimate reason for missing an exam, the student should contact the Dean of Students office and present written verifiable proof of the reason for missing the laboratory and/or quiz, e.g., a doctor's note, police report, court notice, etc. clearly stating the date AND time of the mitigating problem. The student must also notify the CES Department Office/Instructor that the laboratory period will be missed so that appropriate steps can be taken to make up the grade.

**Syllabus modification:** Any modification of this syllabus will be distributed in class and via e-mail.

**Cellular Phones:** All cellular phones and other electronic devices must be switched off during all lab times. Such devices must be stowed in bags during exams or quizzes.

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

**Chemistry Tutoring Center:** Located in the Central King Building, Lower Level, Rm. G12. For further information please click [here](#).

**Accommodation of Disabilities:** Office of Accessibility Resources and Services (**formerly known as Disability Support Services**) offers long term and temporary accommodations for undergraduate, graduate and visiting students at NJIT.

If you are in need of accommodations due to a disability please contact **Marsha Williams-Nicholas, M.A., E.D.M.** - Accessibility Resources and Services Manager, Office of Accessibility Resources and Services [marsha.williamsnicholas@njit.edu](mailto:marsha.williamsnicholas@njit.edu) (973) 596-2994. The office is located in Fenster Hall Room 260. A Letter of Accommodation Eligibility from the Office of Accessibility Resources Services office authorizing your accommodations will be required.

### Important Dates:

Date	Day	Event
Jan 21, 2025	T	First Day of Classes
Jan 27, 2025	M	Last Day to Add/Drop Classes
Mar 16, 2025	Su	Spring break starts
May 7, 2025	W	Last day of classes
May 10-16		Final Exam Period

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## Tentative Lab Schedule

Week	Topic	Assignment
1	Check in/Safety Lecture	
2	(expt. 1) Techniques in Preparing Solutions	
3	(expt. 2) Volumetric Glassware, Statistics, and Spreadsheet Exercise	
4	(expt. 3) Determination of sulfate as barium sulfate	
5	(expt. 3) Determination of sulfate as barium sulfate	
6	(expt. 4) Percentage of $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$ in a sample	
7	(expt. 4) Percentage of $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$ in a sample	
8	(expt. 5) Determination of hardness of water	
9	(expt. 6) Potentiometric titration of an acid mixture	
10	(expt. 7) Determination of trace iron using UV-Visible spectrophotometry	
11	(expt. 8) Spectrophotometry of a two-component mixture	
12	(expt. 8) Spectrophotometry of a two-component mixture	
13	(expt. 9) Determination of Lead in Water Sample with Atomic Absorption Spectrophotometry	
14	Presentation and Check out	

Each laboratory period will begin with a 30-minute discussion of the theory and procedure of the experiment, as well as safety reminders. Then there will discussion questions that need to be answered for each laboratory report.

## Laboratory report format and guidelines:

Laboratory reports are an important part of science education. Students in chemistry and biology will be expected to write professional laboratory report. Therefore, in this course you will be introduced to several of the major components of writing a laboratory report. It is my hope that this course will give you an advantage in upper level courses.

### The format

Clarity of expression, correct grammar, spelling and paragraphing are expected. The lab report will consist of the following and must be in the order below: All components will be in paragraph form and must be double typed double spaced in Times New Roman 11-point font with 1" margins. Do not list anything. Data and results must be put in tables. Schemes and figures must be prepared using a proper software such as Biovia (free), ChemSketch (free), ChemDoodle (free), or ChemDraw. They can also be neatly written down in ink. See Laboratory Manual for further details.

### Tables

You must use tables. They must be numbered using Roman Numerals: (I, II, III----etc) Figures & Graphs should be numbered using alpha numerals (1, 2, 3-----etc).

### Introduction: Objective and Theory (20 points, >200 words)

The introduction must contain a discussion of the basic principles the lab is illustrating. This must be in your own words and not a paraphrase of the published experiment in your lab manual. You must cite statements of fact not ordinarily known using the following method: [#] at the end of the sentence containing the information. Do not include extraneous facts that do not pertain directly to the objective of the lab. Any equations used should be included along with a discussion of how they will be used. Be sure to identify all variables in every equation you discuss.

### Procedures and observations (30 points, need to include sample preparation and other detailed information)

Writing a procedure for a chemical experiment involves using a formal and stylized writing approach. The experimental section will consist of a short paragraph that includes a sentence that refers the reader to some source for the procedure. Details from the published procedure and any experimental hints or tips that may aid the reader in understanding and repeating the experiment should be included. All reagents used must be reported in as the quantity you actually used (in parentheses, followed by the number of moles). All products used must be reported in as the quantity you actually used (in parentheses, followed by the number of moles) and % yield.

### Results (including calculations, discussion & conclusion, totally 50 points)

The results section should contain tables, graphs and illustrations.

- Tables should be numbered using ROMAN NUMERALS. (Table I, Table II, Table III...)
- Graphs and illustrations should be numbered using ALPHANUMERICS (Figure1, Figure 2, Figure 3...)
- Label the x and y axes of your graphs with an informative label and include the units. For instance for a titration the x axis would be "Volume NaOH (mL)" while the y axis might be "Voltage (mv)".
- Do not just connect the dots. At this level most graphs can be fit to the best straight line ( $y = mx + b$ ) using linear regression. In MSExcel you can use TRENDLINE.
- All tables, graphs and illustrations should have an informative title: "Table I – Experimental Melting Points"
- All raw data that is used to perform calculations must be put in a table.

### Calculations (20 points, show detailed calculation steps)

Show all equations you used to calculate your result. For instance, if you are calculating percent error you must first include the equation for percent error as follows:

$$\% \text{ error} = \{ [ |ExpVal - AccptVal| ] / AccptVal \} 100$$

- This can be typed (good time to learn how to use the equation writer in MSWord) or neatly handwritten in ink.
- Follow with the actual calculation (can be neatly hand written in ink) using correct significant figures and units.
- If your lab requires repetitive calculations, you only need to include one of these calculations in your report.
- Percent yield calculations: Refer to General Chemistry 1 notes on limiting reactant, theoretical yield and percent yield calculations. Show all steps for full credit.

### **Discussion (400 and 1200 words) (20 points)**

This is an important part of your laboratory report. In this section you will do the following:

- Restate your final results: "The molecular mass of copper sulfate was found to be -----"
- If possible compare your results to expected or literature values.
- Explain the meaning of your results:
  - Did you achieve your goal? Why or why not.
  - Did your results match literature values? Report literature value and % error.
  - If your value was too high, explain why. Be specific.
  - If your value was too low, explain why. Be specific.
  - Discuss how this laboratory relates to chemistry. Explain what principles and concepts it illustrates.
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### **Conclusion (10 points)**

Provide a global conclusion regarding your experimental results. This section should be 100 – 250 words.

### **Questions**

There are questions related to each experiment in the lab manual. You must answer all questions in the lab report. Type the question itself in bold then answer using complete sentences using regular font. If the question requires a calculation use the rules found under the CALCULATION SECTION above.

There will be additional discussion questions that will be sent to students for them to answer for each laboratory report.