

## Course Syllabus

offered by Department of Chemistry  
with effect from Semester B 2017/18

This form is for the completion by the *Course Leader*. The information provided on this form is the official record of the course. It will be used for the City University's database, various City University publications (including websites) and documentation for students and others as required.

Please refer to the Explanatory Notes on the various items of information required.

**Prepared / Last Updated by:**

Name: Prof. T. C. Lau Academic Unit: Department of Chemistry  
3442 7811 /  
Phone/email: bhtclau@cityu.edu.hk Date: 30 November 2017

**City University of Hong Kong  
Course Syllabus**

**offered by Department of Chemistry  
with effect from Semester B 2017/18**

---

---

**Part I Course Overview**

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Course Title:</b>   | Advanced Inorganic Chemistry  |
| <b>Course Code:</b>  | BCH8130   |
| <b>Course Duration:</b>                                      | 1 semester  |
| <b>Credit Units:</b>   | 4 credits   |
| <b>Level:</b>  | R8  |
| <b>Proposed Area:</b><br><i>(for GE courses only)</i>        | <input type="checkbox"/> Arts and Humanities<br><input type="checkbox"/> Study of Societies, Social and Business Organisations<br><input type="checkbox"/> Science and Technology |
| <b>Medium of Instruction:</b>                                | English   |
| <b>Medium of Assessment:</b>                                 | English   |
| <b>Prerequisites:</b><br><i>(Course Code and Title)</i>      | Nil   |
| <b>Precursors:</b><br><i>(Course Code and Title)</i>         | Nil   |
| <b>Equivalent Courses:</b><br><i>(Course Code and Title)</i> | Nil   |
| <b>Exclusive Courses:</b><br><i>(Course Code and Title)</i>  | Nil   |

## Part II Course Details

### 1. Abstract

(A 150-word description about the course)

This course is a postgraduate taught course tailored for postgraduate research students only.

The aim of this course is to help students to develop an understanding of the principles and concepts of modern inorganic chemistry with an emphasis on the role of transition metals in inorganic redox reaction mechanisms, metalloproteins, and inorganic photophysics and photochemistry.

### 2. Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

(CILOs state what the student is expected to be able to do at the end of the course according to a given standard of performance.)

| No. | CILOs <sup>#</sup>   | Weighting*<br>(if applicable) | Discovery-enriched curriculum related learning outcomes (please tick where appropriate) |    |    |
|-----|--|-------------------------------|---|----|----|
|     |  |                               | A1  | A2 | A3 |
| 1.  | Analyse the principles for the extraction of various elements from their ores based on redox potentials and Ellingham diagrams.  |                               | ✓   | ✓  |    |
| 2.  | Evaluate the redox stability of inorganic species in water and the products of inorganic redox reactions using Latimer diagrams, Frost diagrams and Pourbaix diagrams. |                               | ✓   | ✓  |    |
| 3.  | Analyse the rate of mechanism of an inorganic electron transfer reactions using Marcus Theory.   |                               |   | ✓  | ✓  |
| 4.  | Evaluate the roles of transition metal centres and amino acid residues on the structural and functional properties of metalloproteins.                                 |                               | ✓   | ✓  |    |
| 5.  | Analyse the photophysical and photochemical properties of inorganic and organometallic transition metal complexes.   |                               | ✓   | ✓  |    |
| 6.  | Discover examples encountered in our daily lives that involve the applications of transition metal systems.  |                               |   |    | ✓  |
|     |  | 100%                          |   |    |    |

\* If weighting is assigned to CILOs, they should add up to 100%.

# Please specify the alignment of CILOs to the Gateway Education Programme Intended Learning outcomes (PILOs) in Section A of Annex.

A1: Attitude

Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.

A2: Ability

Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to self-life problems.

A3: Accomplishments

Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.

**3. Teaching and Learning Activities (TLAs)**  
(TLAs designed to facilitate students' achievement of the CILOs.)

| TLA                                | Brief Description   | CILO No. |   |   |   |   |   | Hours/week<br>(if applicable) |
|------------------------------------|---|----------|---|---|---|---|---|-------------------------------|
|                                    |   | 1        | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |                               |
| Group activities                   | Teaching and learning will be based on large and small group activities in which the principles of extraction of various elements will be examined and discussed.   | ✓        |   |   |   |   |   |                               |
| Group activities                   | In large and small group activities the basic concepts of Latimer diagrams, Frost diagrams and Pourbaix diagrams will be examined and discussed.  |          | ✓ |   |   |   |   |                               |
| Group critical evaluation tasks    | In large and small group critical evaluation tasks students will discuss and rationalise the various factors affecting the rate of electron transfer reactions.   |          |   | ✓ |   |   |   |                               |
| Group activities                   | Teaching and learning will be in the form of large and small group activities; students will develop an understanding on the structural and functional properties of metalloproteins.   |          |   |   | ✓ |   |   |                               |
| Group activities                   | In large and small group activities, students will discuss and examine the photophysical and photochemical properties of inorganic and organometallic transition metal complexes.   |          |   |   |   | ✓ |   |                               |
| Literature search and presentation | Students, in small groups, will take part in the literature search on identification of their daily life encounters related inorganic chemistry. They will then present, evaluate and discuss their findings in the light of modern day living in the form of written reports and oral presentations. |          |   |   |   |   | ✓ |                               |

**4. Assessment Tasks/Activities (ATs)**  
(ATs are designed to assess how well the students achieve the CILOs.)

| Assessment Tasks/Activities                 | CILO No. |   |   |   |   |   | Weighting* | Remarks |
|---|----------|---|---|---|---|---|------------|---------|
|   | 1        | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |            |         |
| Continuous Assessment: <u>30%</u>           |          |   |   |   |   |   |            |         |
| Short Quizzes and Tutorial Questions        | ✓        | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |   | 5%         |         |
| Assignments                                 | ✓        | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |   | 10%        |         |
| Tests                                       | ✓        | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |   | 10%        |         |
| Written Reports and Group Presentations     |          |   |   |   |   | ✓ | 5%         |         |
| Examination: <u>70%</u> (duration: 3 hours) |          |   |   |   |   |   |            |         |
| * The weightings should add up to 100%.     |          |   |   |   |   |   | 100%       |         |

Starting from Semester A, 2015-16, students must satisfy the following minimum passing requirement for BCH courses:

**“A minimum of 40% in both coursework and examination components.”**

## 5. Assessment Rubrics

(Grading of student achievements is based on student performance in assessment tasks/activities with the following rubrics.)

| Assessment Task                            | Criterion  | Excellent<br>(A+, A, A-) | Good<br>(B+, B, B-) | Fair<br>(C+, C, C-) | Marginal<br>(D) | Failure<br>(F)                    |
|--|--|--------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Short Quizzes and Tutorial Questions    | ABILITY to develop an understanding on the concepts of element extraction; Latimer, Frost and Pourbaix diagrams; electron transfer; bioinorganic chemistry; and inorganic photochemistry | High                     | Significant         | Moderate            | Basic           | Not even reaching marginal levels |
| 2. Assignments                             | ABILITY to develop an understanding on the aforementioned concepts   | High                     | Significant         | Moderate            | Basic           | Not even reaching marginal levels |
| 3. Tests                                   | ABILITY to describe and explain the aforementioned concepts to solve problems  | High                     | Significant         | Moderate            | Basic           | Not even reaching marginal levels |
| 4. Written Reports and Group Presentations | ABILITY to conduct literature search and give written and oral presentations on different topics on inorganic chemistry at the advanced level  | High                     | Significant         | Moderate            | Basic           | Not even reaching marginal levels |
| 5. Examination                             | ABILITY to describe, explain, and integrate the aforementioned concepts and apply them to solve problems   | High                     | Significant         | Moderate            | Basic           | Not even reaching marginal levels |

### Part III Other Information (more details can be provided separately in the teaching plan)

#### 1. Keyword Syllabus

*(An indication of the key topics of the course.)*

##### Oxidation and Reduction

Extraction of the elements. Ellingham diagrams. Redox potentials. Redox stability in water. Latimer diagrams, Frost diagrams and Pourbaix diagrams.

##### Inorganic Reaction Mechanisms

Inner-sphere and outer-sphere electron transfer reactions. Marcus theory. Factors affecting rates of reactions.

##### Metalloproteins

Role of transition metal centres and amino acid residues. Structures and functions of selected metalloproteins.

##### Inorganic Photochemistry

Absorption and emission properties of luminescent transition metal complexes. Excited-state nature. Energy- and electron-transfer. Potential applications.

#### 2. Reading List

##### 2.1 Compulsory Readings

*(Compulsory readings can include books, book chapters, or journal/magazine articles. There are also collections of e-books, e-journals available from the CityU Library.)*

|     |  |
|-----|--|
| 1.  |  |
| 2.  |  |
| 3.  |  |
| ... |  |

##### 2.2 Additional Readings

*(Additional references for students to learn to expand their knowledge about the subject.)*

|    |   |
|----|---|
| 1. | <i>Inorganic Chemistry</i> , Shriver and Atkins, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Edition, Oxford University Press, Oxford 1999. |
| 2. | <i>Basic Inorganic Chemistry</i> , Cotton, Wilkinson and Gaus, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Edition, J. Wiley, 1995.         |
| 3. | <i>Advanced Inorganic Chemistry</i> , Cotton and Wilkinson, 5 <sup>th</sup> Edition, Wiley, 1988.               |
| 4. | <i>Principles of Bioinorganic Chemistry</i> , Lippard and Berg, University Science Books, 1994.                 |
| 5. | Photochemistry of Polypyridine and Porphyrin Complexes, Kalyanasundaram, Academic Press, 1992.                  |

A. Please specify the Gateway Education Programme Intended Learning Outcomes (PILOs) that the course is aligned to and relate them to the CILOs stated in Part II, Section 2 of this form:

| <b>GE PILO</b>  | <b>Please indicate which CILO(s) is/are related to this PILO, if any<br/>(can be more than one CILOs in each PILO)</b> |
|---|--|
| PILO 1: Demonstrate the capacity for self-directed learning   |  |
| PILO 2: Explain the basic methodologies and techniques of inquiry of the arts and humanities, social sciences, business, and science and technology |  |
| PILO 3: Demonstrate critical thinking skills  |  |
| PILO 4: Interpret information and numerical data  |  |
| PILO 5: Produce structured, well-organised and fluent text  |  |
| PILO 6: Demonstrate effective oral communication skills   |  |
| PILO 7: Demonstrate an ability to work effectively in a team  |  |
| PILO 8: Recognise important characteristics of their own culture(s) and at least one other culture, and their impact on global issues               |  |
| PILO 9: Value ethical and socially responsible actions  |  |
| PILO 10: Demonstrate the attitude and/or ability to accomplish discovery and/or innovation  |  |

*GE course leaders should cover the mandatory PILOs for the GE area (Area 1: Arts and Humanities; Area 2: Study of Societies, Social and Business Organisations; Area 3: Science and Technology) for which they have classified their course; for quality assurance purposes, they are advised to carefully consider if it is beneficial to claim any coverage of additional PILOs. General advice would be to restrict PILOs to only the essential ones. (Please refer to the curricular mapping of GE programme: [http://www.cityu.edu.hk/edge/ge/faculty/curricular\\_mapping.htm](http://www.cityu.edu.hk/edge/ge/faculty/curricular_mapping.htm).)*

B. Please select an assessment task for collecting evidence of student achievement for quality assurance purposes. Please retain at least one sample of student achievement across a period of three years.

| <b>Selected Assessment Task</b> |
|---------------------------------|
|                                 |