

CHEM6123: POSTGRADUATE SYMPOSIUM

Effective Term

Semester A 2025/26

Part I Course Overview

Course Title

Postgraduate Symposium

Subject Code

CHEM - Chemistry

Course Number

6123

Academic Unit

Chemistry (CHEM)

College/School

College of Science (SI)

Course Duration

One Semester

Credit Units

1

Level

P5, P6 - Postgraduate Degree

Medium of Instruction

English

Medium of Assessment

English

Prerequisites

Nil

Precursors

Nil

Equivalent Courses

BCH6123 Postgraduate Symposium

Exclusive Courses

Nil

Part II Course Details

Abstract

This course is a core course for the self-financed taught MSc in Chemistry programme of the Department of Chemistry. This course aims for postgraduate students to:

- Discover and learn about frontier scientific research methodologies and achievements in the various fields and disciplines of Chemistry and related Molecular Sciences from leading experts in their fields
- Develop skills in communication and presentation of scientific results in a professional manner
- Develop ability to critically appraise research results
- Broaden their knowledge base in scientific research topics other than their own fields, and to develop critical thinking and analytical skills in research

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

CILOs		Weighting (if DEC-A1 DEC-A2 DEC-A3 app.)			
1	Demonstrate the capability for presenting scientific paper, explaining the challenge and basic research methodology; demonstrate ability to communicate scientific information in a professional manner.		x	x	
2	Apply knowledge to critically evaluate the scientific papers presented by different participants and research methods involved.			x	x
3	Produce new insights thought the discussions with the symposium participants.			x	x

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 real-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.

Learning and Teaching Activities (LTAs)

LTAs	Brief Description	CILO No.	Hours/week (if applicable)
Postgraduate Symposium	Students will participate in the Postgraduate Symposium	1, 2, 3	

2	Poster presentation/ preparation of critique	Students will give a poster presentation: 1. Abstract 2. Design of poster 3. Presentation of poster Or Students will prepare a critique (if no poster presentation) through the following activities: 1. Students will discuss with the poster presenters and prepare a critique to critically analyse and review the content, research methodology, interpretation of experimental data and presentation skill of a selected poster in the postgraduate symposium	1, 2, 3	
3	Seminar reports	Students will prepare a seminar report on keynote lecture or selected oral presentation to provide critical analyses and reviews on the research topics and the methodologies adopted	2	

Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)

	ATs	CILO No.	Weighting (%)	Remarks ("- " for nil entry)	Allow Use of GenAI?
1	Attendance of the symposium	1, 2, 3	20	-	Yes
2	Poster design and presentation or critique to critically analyse and review the content of a selected poster	1, 2, 3	40	-	Yes
3	Seminar reports	2	40	-	No

Continuous Assessment (%)

100

Minimum Continuous Assessment Passing Requirement (%)

40

Assessment Rubrics (AR)

Assessment Task

1. Attendance of the symposium (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

Criterion

Ability to communicate scientific information and discuss among symposium participants.

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Able to demonstrate excellent abilities across all topics outlined in the criterion with no mistakes in the assessment task.

Good

(B+, B, B-) Able to demonstrate good abilities in various topics outlined in the criterion with a few minor mistakes in the assessment task.

Fair

(C+, C, C-) Able to demonstrate good abilities in key topics of selected areas outlined in the criterion with a few mistakes in the assessment task.

Marginal

(D) Able to demonstrate basic abilities in isolated topics of selected areas outlined in the criterion with some mistakes in the assessment task.

Failure

(F) Fail to demonstrate basic abilities in most topics outlined in the criterion.

Assessment Task

2. Poster design and presentation or critique to critically analyse and review the content of a selected poster (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

Criterion

1. Ability to communicate scientific information in a professional manner.
2. Ability to explain the challenge and research methodology.
3. Ability to analyse and evaluate scientific research results.

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Able to demonstrate excellent abilities across all topics outlined in the criterion with no mistakes in the assessment task.

Good

(B+, B, B-) Able to demonstrate good abilities in various topics outlined in the criterion with a few minor mistakes in the assessment task.

Fair

(C+, C, C-) Able to demonstrate good abilities in key topics of selected areas outlined in the criterion with a few mistakes in the assessment task.

Marginal

(D) Able to demonstrate basic abilities in isolated topics of selected areas outlined in the criterion with some mistakes in the assessment task.

Failure

(F) Fail to demonstrate basic abilities in most topics outlined in the criterion.

Assessment Task

3. Seminar reports (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

Criterion

Ability to evaluate a scientific paper and propose solutions to the scientific problems.

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Able to demonstrate excellent abilities across all topics outlined in the criterion with no mistakes in the assessment task.

Good

(B+, B, B-) Able to demonstrate good abilities in various topics outlined in the criterion with a few minor mistakes in the assessment task.

Fair

(C+, C, C-) Able to demonstrate good abilities in key topics of selected areas outlined in the criterion with a few mistakes in the assessment task.

Marginal

(D) Able to demonstrate basic abilities in isolated topics of selected areas outlined in the criterion with some mistakes in the assessment task.

Failure

(F) Fail to demonstrate basic abilities in most topics outlined in the criterion.

Part III Other Information**Keyword Syllabus**

There will be no fixed syllabus for this course. Seminars and research proposals will be based on the relevant fields / disciplines selected by the MSc student.

Reading List**Compulsory Readings**

Title	
1	Nil

Additional Readings

Title	
1	Designing science presentations: a visual guide to figures, papers, slides, posters, and more [electronic resource], Matt Carter, Academic Press, London, 2013.
2	Writing and presenting scientific papers, / Birgitta Malmfors, Phil Garnsworthy, Michael Grossman Eds., Nottingham University Press, Nottingham, 2000.