NEW JERSEY CENTER
FOR TEACHING & LEARNING

Progressive Science Initiative® (PSI®)
CHEM6746: Learning and Teaching Advanced Topics in Chemistry

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Course Credit: 3.0 NJCTL credits

Dates & Times:
This is a 3-credit, self-paced course, covering 7 modules of content. The exact number of hours that you can expect to spend on each module will vary based upon the module coursework, as well as your study style and preferences. You should plan to spend approximately 15 hours per credit working online, and up to 30 hours per credit working offline.

Graduate Student Handbook: www.njctl.org/graduate-handbook/

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
This course provides teachers, or prospective teachers, an understanding of advanced topics in chemistry and how to teach them to students. Topics include solutions, mixtures & separation; buffers & titrations; thermodynamics; electrochemistry; organic chemistry; and polymers.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:
Upon completion of the course, the student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of advanced chemistry topics, detailed in the module learning outcomes below.
2. Integrate PSI materials (including presentations, labs, practice problems, etc.) to support student learning and deliver effective instruction.
3. Create a social constructivist learning environment through the use of formative assessment questions, interpreting the results of this assessment to effectively facilitate student-led discussions that support deeper understanding of the content.

4. Integrate multiple attempts to demonstrate student mastery of content knowledge, as encouraged/fostered by the PSI pedagogy.
5. Implement learning plans that are aligned to NGSS and College Board standards and allow for differentiation based on the needs of learners.

TEXTS, READINGS, INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCES:
Required Texts:

- PSI Chemistry uses a free digital textbook accessible at: https://njctl.org/courses/science/chemistry/
- Participants will download SMART Notebook presentations, homework files, labs, and teacher resources from the PSI Chemistry Course

Recommended Texts:

Cobb, C., Fetterolf, M. (2010). *The Joy of Chemistry: The Amazing Science of Familiar Things*. Amherst, NY: Prometheus Books. ISBN-13: 978-1591027713

Holton, G. J., Brush, S. G., & Holton, G. J. (2001). *Physics, the Human Adventure: From Copernicus to Einstein and Beyond*. New Brunswick, N.J: Rutgers University Press. ISBN-13: 9780813529080

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:
In order to receive a Passing grade, the participant must complete the following course requirements:

1. Activities: A number of different learning activities will ensure participant engagement and learning in the course. These include:
   - Engage in video module lessons which demonstrate minimized direct instruction followed by frequent formative assessment.
   - Completion of formative assessments aligned to learning objectives which include detailed analysis when answered incorrectly.
   - Interaction with module discussion boards that allow conversation with peers and course instructors about the module's content, delivering that content to students. Discussion boards also serve as a place to ask and answer questions related to the module's content.
2. Short Answer Assignment: Each module requires one (1) original response to a given prompt. These prompts are typically based upon course lessons and require teachers to analyze, reflect, and make connections between the module's content and their own classroom practice.
3. Mastery Exercises: For each module, these multiple-choice question quizzes assess the content knowledge gained in a module. Participants have the opportunity to retake; random questions are pulled from a larger question bank on each attempt ensuring varied questions.
4. Virtual Labs: In each module, a virtual lab write-up will be submitted. Virtual Labs are interactive lab simulations that promote a deeper understanding of the content knowledge being learned through real-world applications and analysis.
5. Module Exam: One is completed at the end of each module. It is a culminating exam consisting of multiple choice and free response questions aligned to the standards and objectives of the module.

6. Reflection Paper: At the end of the course, participants are required to reflect on the knowledge taught in the course, make connections, and compare/contrast their current pedagogy with new strategies gained in this assignment.
7. Final Exam: At the end of the course, a comprehensive exam consisting of Multiple Choice and Free Response questions assesses the content knowledge learned throughout the course.

GRADE DISTRIBUTION AND SCALE:
Grade Distribution:

Module Exams	70%
Final Exam	10%
Labs	6%
Short Answer Assignments	6%
Mastery Exercises	6%
Reflection Paper	2%

Grade Scale:

A	93 – 100
A-	90 – 92
B+	86 – 89
B	83 – 86
B-	80 – 82
C+	77 – 79
C	73 – 76
C-	70 – 72
D	60.0 – 69.9
F	59.9 or below

GRADING RUBRIC:
The following rubric is used to score:

- Short Answer Assignment – 6% of grade
- Reflection Paper – 2% of grade

The minimum possible score for this rubric is 4 points, and the score will be converted to the minimum grade available in this module (which is zero unless the scale is used). The maximum score of 25 points will be converted to the maximum grade.

Intermediate scores will be converted respectively and rounded to the nearest available grade. If a scale is used instead of a grade, the score will be converted to the scale elements as if they were consecutive integers.

	Meets Expectation	Approaches Expectation	Below Expectation	Limited Evidence
	7 points	***5 points***	***3 points***	***1 point***
Content	• Demonstrates excellent knowledge of concepts, skills, and theories relevant to topic.	• Demonstrates fair knowledge of concepts, skills, and theories.	• Demonstrates incomplete or insubstantial knowledge of concepts, skills, and theories.	• Demonstrates little or no knowledge of concepts, skills, and theories.
Depth of Reflection	• Content is well supported and addresses all required components of the assignment.	• Content is partially supported; addresses most of the required components of the assignment.	• Content contains major deficiencies; addresses some of the required components of the assignment.	• Content is not supported and/or includes few of the required components of the assignment.
Evidence and Practice	• Response shows strong evidence of synthesis of ideas presented and insights gained throughout the entire course. The implications of these insights for the respondent's overall teaching practice are thoroughly detailed, as applicable.	• Writing is mostly clear, concise, and well organized with good sentence/paragraph construction. Thoughts are expressed in a coherent and logical manner. There are no more than five spelling, grammar, or syntax errors per page of writing.	• Response is missing some components and/or does not fully meet the requirements indicated in the instructions. Some questions or parts of the assignment are not addressed. Some attachments and additional documents, if required, are missing or unsuitable for the purpose of the assignment.	• Response excludes essential components and/or does not address the requirements indicated in the instructions. Many parts of the assignment are addressed minimally, inadequately, and/or not at all.
	4 points	***3 points***	***2 points***	***1 point***
Writing Quality	• Writing is well-organized, clear, concise, and focused; no errors.	• Some minor errors or omissions in writing organization, focus, and clarity.	• Some significant errors or omissions in writing organization, focus, and clarity.	• Numerous errors in writing organization, focus, and/or clarity.

The following rubric is used to score:

- Labs – 6% of grade

The minimum possible score for this rubric is 2 points, and the score will be converted to the minimum grade available in this module (which is zero unless the scale is used). The maximum score of 14 points will be converted to the maximum grade.

Intermediate scores will be converted respectively and rounded to the nearest available grade. If a scale is used instead of a grade, the score will be converted to the scale elements as if they were consecutive integers.

	Meets Expectation	**Approaches Expectation**	**Below Expectation**	**Limited Evidence**
	7 points	***5 points***	***3 points***	***1 point***
Completeness	• Lab write-up is complete with no missing fields.	• Lab write-up has 1-2 missing fields.	• Lab write-up has 3-5 missing fields.	• There are more than 5 missing fields on the lab write-up.
Calculations	• All answers are calculated correctly.	• Most answers are calculated correctly, but there are 1-2 minor calculation errors.	• Most answers are calculated correctly, but there are multiple minor calculation errors, or 1-2 gross miscalculations.	• There are calculation errors throughout the lab.

The remaining types of assignments are not scored using a rubric. These assignments are scored using percentage correct to assign a letter grade. The assignments in this manner are as follows:

- Mastery Exercises – 6% of grade
- Module Exams – 70% of grade
- Final Exam – 10% of grade

Mastery Exercises can be retaken as many times as desired to ensure a high score. Due to the nature of these assignments, each time they are taken, they will be composed of unique questions pulled randomly from a larger question bank.

Module and Final Exams are scored using a curve, which allows us to keep content exams rigorous. Module Exams can be retaken one time. Final Exams cannot be retaken.

ACADEMIC STANDING:

NJCTL has established standards for academic good standing within a student's academic program. Students enrolled in any NJCTL online course must receive an 80 or higher to successfully complete a course and receive credit for that course. An 80 is equivalent to a GPA of 2.7 or B-. Additionally, students in an endorsement program must receive a cumulative GPA of 3.0 for all courses combined in order to successfully complete the program.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:
Students must assume responsibility for maintaining honesty in all work submitted for credit and in any other work designated by the instructor of the course. Academic dishonesty includes cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, plagiarism, reusing /repurposing your own work, unauthorized possession of academic materials, and unauthorized collaboration.

CITING SOURCES WITH APA STYLE:
All students are expected to follow proper writing and APA requirements when citing in APA (based on the APA Style Manual, 6th edition) for all assignments.

DISABILITY SERVICES STATEMENT:
We are committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. Any student with a documented disability requesting academic accommodations should contact the Dean of Students, Melissa Axelsson, for additional information to coordinate reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities (melissa@njctl.org).

NETIQUETTE:
Respect the diversity of opinions among the instructor and classmates and engage with them in a courteous, respectful, and professional manner. All posts and classroom communication must be conducted in accordance with the student code of conduct. Think before you push the Send button. Did you say just what you meant? How will the person on the other end read the words?

Maintain an environment free of harassment, stalking, threats, abuse, insults or humiliation toward the instructor and classmates. This includes, but is not limited to, demeaning written or oral comments of an ethnic, religious, age, disability, sexist (or sexual orientation), or racist nature; and the unwanted sexual advances or intimidations by email, or on discussion boards and other postings within or connected to the online classroom.

If you have concerns about something that has been said, please let your instructor know.

CLASS SCHEDULE:

Module	Module Learning Outcomes	Assignments
1 – Solutions, Mixtures & Separation	● Explain the quantitative relationship between the elemental composition by mass and the empirical formula of a pure substance. ● Explain the quantitative relationship between the elemental composition by mass and the composition of substances in a mixture. ● Calculate the number of solute particles, volume, or molarity of solutions. ● Explain the relationship between the solubility of ionic and molecular compounds in aqueous and nonaqueous solvents, and the intermolecular interactions between particles. ● Explain the amount of light absorbed by a solution of molecules or ions in relationship to the concentration, path length, and molar absorptivity.	● Short Answer Assignment ● Lab ● Mastery Exercise ● Module Exam

2 – Buffers & Titration	● Use the Henderson-Hasselbalch equation to determine pH. ● Determine the concentration of both members in a conjugate acid-base pair. ● Define titration. ● Discuss how a titration is prepared. ● Use titration curves.	● Short Answer Assignment ● Lab ● Mastery Exercise ● Module Exam
3 - Thermodynamics	● Generate explanations or make predictions about the transfer of thermal energy between systems based on this transfer being due to kinetic energy transfer between systems (system & surroundings). ● Use conservation of energy to relate the magnitudes of the energy changes occurring in two or more interacting systems, including identification of the systems, the type (heat versus work), or the direction of energy flow. ● Use calculations or estimations to relate energy changes associated with heating/cooling a substance to the heat capacity, relate energy changes associated with a phase transition to the enthalpy of fusion/vaporization, relate energy changes associated with a chemical reaction to the enthalpy of the reaction, and relate energy changes to PΔV work. ● Design and/or interpret the results of an experiment in which calorimetric is used to determine the change in enthalpy of a chemical process at constant pressure. ● Draw qualitative and quantitative connections between the reaction enthalpy and the energies involved in the breaking and formation of chemical bonds. ● Use representations and models to predict the sign of relative magnitude of the entropy change associated with chemical or physical processes. ● Predict whether or not a physical or chemical process is thermodynamically favored by determination of the signs of both ΔHo and ΔSo, and calculation or estimation of ΔGo when needed.	● Short Answer Assignment ● Lab ● Mastery Exercise ● Module Exam
4 – Electrochemistry	● Assign oxidation numbers to atoms, ions, and compounds. ● Identify species that are oxidized and/or reduced and to identify those species that are oxidizing agents and/or reducing agents in a redox reaction. ● Balance redox reactions in neutral, acidic, and basic solutions by using the half-reaction method. ● Make qualitative or quantitative predictions about galvanic or electrolytic reactions based on half-cell reactions and potentials and/or Faraday's law. ● Analyze data regarding galvanic or electrolytic cells to identify properties of the underlying redox reactions.	● Short Answer Assignment ● Mastery Exercise ● Exam ● Module Exam
5 –Intro to Organic Chemistry	● Define the term "organic compound" and give examples. ● Characterize hydrocarbons. ● Represent molecules using common modeling structures.	● Lab ● Mastery Exercise ● Module Exam

	● Differentiate between alkanes, alkenes, alkynes, cycloalkanes, aromatics, alkanols, alkanones, alkanals, alkanoic acids, alkanoates, and esters. ● Identify organic compounds and isomers.	
6 – Polymers	● Discuss the relationship between monomers, macromolecules, and polymers. ● Explain the processes of dehydration synthesis and hydrolysis. ● Name carbohydrates, polysaccharides, nucleic acids, amino acids, and proteins. ● Explain addition and condensation polymers.	● Mastery Exercise ● Module Exam
7- Reflection & Final Exam	● Zoom meeting with instructor, as needed	● Discussion Board ● Reflection Paper ● Final Exam