

Chemistry 2720: Physical Chemistry I

Fall 2005

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Email

I expect you to read your email regularly (at least twice a week) since I regularly convey useful information via this medium. You should make sure that the email address in the class mailing list (usually your uleth address) functions properly (e.g. that you haven't exceeded your email storage quota).

Office visits

I have found the posting of office hours to create more difficulties than it resolves. Accordingly, you may drop in to visit me any time I am available. Due to meetings, this varies from week to week. I will therefore send you an email on Friday of each week to let you know when I am likely to be available in the following week. If I am not in my office when I should normally be available—unscheduled emergencies do happen—I will try to inform the Departmental administrative assistant, Susan Hill. She should be able to tell you when I am likely to be back.

Course prerequisites

Chemistry 2000, Mathematics 1560 and Physics 1000 (or equivalent) are prerequisites for this course. If you lack any of these prerequisites, you should talk to me as soon as possible (if you haven't already done so).

A page in the course web site (<http://people.uleth.ca/~roussel/C2720/review.pdf>) outlines the skills which will be required of you based on the material in the prerequisite courses. It is up to you to refresh yourself on this material if necessary.

Textbooks

Required: *A Brief Introduction to Physical Chemistry*, by Roussel

Optional: *Physical Chemistry*, 4th ed. by Laidler, Meiser and Sanctuary (The 3rd ed. is OK too.)

The required text is all you need for this course. The optional text is for those students who like to have a second source for ideas and problems. I will make no direct reference to this book.

Grading scheme

Evaluation type	Number	Value
Quizzes	8	1.5% each
In-class tests:	2	22% each
Final exam:	1	44%

If you miss a test or quiz, you will receive a grade of zero unless you have a medical or other equally serious, documentable reason. **It is your responsibility to notify me.** You should be prepared to present appropriate documents on request to support any claims you make with respect to a missed test or quiz.

If you do miss a quiz or in-class test with a valid reason, the weight of the final exam will be increased accordingly.

If you miss the final exam, the provisions of the University Calendar (2005–06 edition, Part 4 (Academic Regulations), section 4, subsection f) take effect.

Quizzes

Three to five potential quiz questions will be handed out on the Thursday of most weeks. The following Thursday, one of these questions will be used as an in-class closed-book quiz, possibly with different data, but otherwise in identical form to that handed out. The quizzes are intended to get you to study continuously, which is really the only way to be successful in physical chemistry. Some allowance is made in the quiz schedule for tests, so there will be a few weeks without quizzes. The schedule is as follows:

Quiz	Questions handed out	Quiz date
1	Sept. 15	Sept. 22
2	Sept. 22	Sept. 29
3	Sept. 29	Oct. 6
4	Oct. 20	Oct. 27
5	Oct. 27	Nov. 3
6	Nov. 17	Nov. 24
7	Nov. 24	Dec. 1
8	Dec. 1	Dec. 8

You may need data from the textbook to answer some of the potential quiz questions. You will be provided with any required data in the quiz itself, of course. On the other hand, you should memorize any formulas or procedures needed to solve the quiz problems. Note that since there are few formulas of any great complexity in this course and since the quizzes will cover at most two weeks of material, this is not a great burden, but it should help you become thoroughly familiar with the material.

Because the quiz questions are being used both as a pedagogical device and as an evaluation tool, I will not directly discuss these questions with you prior to the quiz unless you need a simple clarification of the wording.

Some of the two to four questions handed out but not used in the quiz may resurface in later tests. Accordingly, I will not discuss the unused potential quiz questions with you after the quiz either.

Examinations

In each test and in the final exam (but not in the quizzes), you will be allowed to bring one $8\frac{1}{2} \times 11$ -inch piece of paper (both sides) containing any information you want (formulas, brief notes, whatever). Numeric data, including conversion factors, will be provided, so don't bother putting data on your formula sheet. The schedule of examinations follows:

Test	Date	Time
1	Thursday, Oct. 13	9:25 a.m.
2	Thursday, Nov. 10	9:25 a.m.
Final	Friday, Dec. 16	2:00 p.m.