

CH 434 - ADVANCED ANALYTIC CHEM

Spring Semester 1999

MWF 9:00-9:50 am

Henry Hall 39A

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Ex : **Fundamentals** Of **Analytical** Chemistry by Skoog, West, & Holler;
7th edition

WEEK	DATES	READING	TOPIC
1	Jan 11-15	CH 1-4	Statistics
2	Jan 20-22	CH 5-8	Gravimetric & Volumetric Analysis
3	Jan 25-29	CH 9	Complex Equilibria
4	Feb 1-5	CH 10	Simple Acid/Base Systems
5	Feb 8-12	CH 11,12	Complex Acid/Base Systems
6	Feb 17-19	CH 13,14	Complex Titrations
7	Feb 22-26	CH 15-17	Intro. to Electrochemistry
8	Mar 1-5	CH 18,19	Potentiometry
9	Mar 8-12	CH 20,21	Coulometry & Voltammetry
10	Mar 15-19	CH 22,23	Intro. to Spectrometry

----- SPRING RECESS, Mar **24-28** -----

11	Mar 29-31	CH 24	Molecular Spectroscopy
12	Apr 5-8	CH 25,26	Fluorescence & Atomic Spectr.
13	Apr 12-16	CH 28	Intro. to Chromatography
14	Apr 19-23	CH 29,30	GC & HPLC
15	Apr 26-30	CH 31	Analysis of Real Samples

FINAL: MONDAY, **MAY** 3RD, 10:30 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.

There will be four exams (following weeks 3,6,9,& 12) in addition to the final. Problems will be assigned in class and will comprise **25%** of the grade.

Analytical chemistry, like many other branches of chemistry, is an in-depth rerun of some aspect or aspects of first year chemistry; in this case, stoichiometry, acids and bases, electrochemistry, spectroscopy, & chromatography are the areas revisited. In many respects, analytical chemistry is a smorgasbord, and at times it may be difficult to digest. At the conclusion of the course you should be a whiz at handling calculations spanning a broad spectrum of analytical techniques. Who knows, you may find some of the material enjoyable as well as time consuming.

If nothing else, analytical chemistry is the most practical of all the branches of chemistry and problem **solving is paramount**. We'll spend many hours **doing just that**. So bring your calculators to every class and be ready to exercise those tiny grey cells every *MWF* at 9:00 a.m.!

Aloha.

Problem solving

As you **begin learning** how to solve **chemistry** problems, it helps to see **clearly that** your purpose is not to solve the **problem**, but to learn to solve the problem. You are never **finished** with an assigned problem until you understand it **well** enough to solve all **other** problems like it or nearly like it.

Here are some general **hints** on how to solve **problem**:

1. Be sure you have read and understand the theory or **principle behind the** problem. Know the definitions if any **mathematical relationships** you **will** use, how **they** are written mathematically, and the units in which they are expressed.
2. As you use the question-and-answer method on an example, be **sure you understand** each step before going on to the next. **THIS IS THE TIME AND PLACE TO LEARN HOW TO SOLVE PROBLEMS.**
3. If you are solving a problem from the end of **the** chapter, solve **the** problem without **referring** to an example in the chapter. In particular, do not put one **finger** at the **place** of the problem and **another finger** at the page where a similar **example** is solved and then flip back and forth, repeating for your problem each step that appears in the example. This technique gets answers, but no understanding. Instead, if you get stuck, turn from your **end-of-the-chapter** problem altogether and work through the **matching** example from start to **finish**. When you thoroughly understand **the** example, close that page of the book, go back to the problem, and solve it completely.
4. Once you get an answer, be sure it is reasonable. (Just because an answer came from a calculator does not make it reasonable!)
5. Finally the **crucial** questions: "Did I learn how to solve this problem and others like it?" Even if you have a correct answer, but **cannot give** a "yes" answer to this question, you have not finished with the problem.

KEEP YOUR OBJECTIVE IN MIND. YOUR PURPOSE IS TO LEARN HOW TO SOLVE PROBLEMS, NOT TO GET A CORRECT ANSWER AND COMPLETE AN ASSIGNMENT.

LEARNING FROM LECTURE

What a student learns from a lecture depends on what the **student** does before, **after**, and during the lecture. We **will** exam all three.

Before the lecture

Just as a preview of a text reading **assignment** improves **learning** from **reading** the **text**, so a preview of the **lecture improves learning** from the **lecture**. If you know in **advance** what **part** of the textbook to be covered in your next **lecture**, **flip** through the pages the **night** before--or even **better**, the hour before- the **lecture**. **Glance** at section headings and **illustrations**. Make notes on **what you think the main points will be**. Try to **guess** how these ideas go together. Being right or wrong is not important. **The** act itself prepare you to learn during lecture, **rather than after**. This should take about ten **minutes**, but it can save an hour or more of study after the **lecture** to accomplish the same **amount of learning**.

LEARNING CHEMISTRY

Fatigue and how to minimize it

Even if you remove from your study area **all** the distractions **that** surround Joe College, you still must overcome fatigue. **After** long hours at a task, people **become** physically and mentally **tired**. You will not be **physically** tired if you get enough sleep. If your learning efficiency is high, you will have plenty of time to sleep. **High learning efficiency** and adequate sleep support each other.

Mental fatigue is another matter. After lengthy **work periods** at **the** same and similar tasks, you lose **sharpness** and enthusiasm. You must work harder and longer **for** a given amount of learning. **You cannot** avoid **fatigue altogether**, but you can **minimize** it. Try these ideas:

1. If you have several subjects to study, tackle first the most **difficult** or least interesting. Then, when fatigue begins to appear, you **will** be at least interested in what you are doing.
2. Again if you have several subjects to study, and if they are equal interest **and difficult**, rotate them, if it can be done **without** losing continuity. When you feel yourself **losing** interest in one subject, switch to another. Come back to the **first** subject **when** you tire of the second.
3. Take **breaks**. Study for about 50 minutes, and then take 10 minutes off. Stretch. Walk around. **Snack**. **Watch** the time, so you are sure to be back in time to start the second hour at full **learning efficiency**. Repeat **hourly**.
4. **Work** in short sessions. You will experience less **fatigue** in two two-hour sessions than in one four-hour period. Try a two hour session in the afternoon and another two period in the evening. Then **relax**.

Notetaking

Now you have an idea of what your assignment is about, you are ready to learn. Learn now, that is, not later. As you approach each section that **has** a performance **goal**, read it carefully and fix in your thought what to do for as you study. When you **come** to a point of your reading that is important and should be **learned**, think about it. **Summarize** the **main** ideas and **write** them into your notebook in your own words. If what you see what your eyes stops over in your mind long enough to be analyzed, revised **and summarized**, you are learning it at that time. Continue to the entire **assignment** in this way. When you finish, you will have a compact set of notes **covering** the main ideas **which** you have **learned** already. When test time comes, you will be able to revise **them**. That is much easier **than learning** them for the first time.

Most students do not **study in** a textbook this way. **The** more common **procedure** is to **sit** down with a book and felt a pen. important **items** are marked, not in condensed form, but in their full textbook presentation. Many pages **wind** up half colored. You don't have to think about something to **recognize** that it is **important** and highlight it. **If** you don't think **about it**, you don't **learn** it. You have only made a date to **learn** it later. When test **time** comes, you have so many dates to **keep** it is impossible to keep them all. There is too **much** to read and too much to **learn** in too little time.

This is not to say you should never use a highlighter. Just use it **sparingly** and **intelligently**, as a supplement to your **handwritten** notes. Your notes should have a **page reference** to the marked materials. And when you highlight **something**, stop. Think about it. Learn it. Now!

During the lecture

What you learn from a lecture depends largely on the quality of the notes you take. In general, the best lecture notes are brief summaries that list the main ideas presented. Phrases are used rather than sentences. Ideally they are in outline form, showing major topics and subtopics. The notes are short, but they include all special conditions that are essential to the main ideas. Good lecture notes also anticipate a follow-up in which the comments are expanded. This is done by writing notes on only one half of the page, or one of the facing pages in a bound notebook. The remaining space is available for additional comments.

After the lecture

This is a crucial time. It has been demonstrated that a student who waits 24 hours before studying lecture notes forget almost half (46%) of the material presented in the lecture. In two days, 50% is forgotten, and at the end of the week 62% is gone. By contrast, the student who goes over the lecture notes within a few hours after the lecture retain about 98% of what was said, hold 97% a week later, and still remembers more than 90% of the lecture three weeks after.

It is during the review of the lecture that you use the open space in your notebook. Write in greater details the items that were condensed to a few words during the lecture. Check your text for anything you didn't quite understand. Summarize the main points of the lecture. As in notetaking from the textbook, it is the act of thinking through something to the point that you can write it in your own words that matters. REVIEW the lecture just as soon after it is over as possible. Nowhere you will find the better bargain in time and learning.

LEARNING EFFICIENCY

If you have homework that required three hours of genuine learning, how many hours will you study to accomplish that learning? Surely it will be more than three hours. For some students it would be a lot more. How much more for you depends on your LEARNING EFFICIENCY (LE). Learning efficiency is the ratio of minutes learning to minutes of study multiplied by 100. If a student gets 48 minutes of learning in one hour of study, the learning efficiency is

$$LE = (\text{minutes of learning} / \text{minutes of study}) \times 100 = (48/60) \times 100 = 80\% \text{ efficiency}$$

The object, of course, is to make the numerator as large as possible—maximize learning—while making the denominator as small as possible—minimize the time spent studying.

CONCLUSION

Learning is very individual matter. An excellent study technique for one student may be unsatisfactory for another. We do not mean to suggest that you should immediately adopt all the suggestions given here, but we do suggest that you consider them. They have worked for other students, and there is every reason to believe that most of them will work for you too.

FINALLY: How difficult it is to learn chemistry? Here is one opinion:

If to comprehend is the same as forming an image, we will never form an image of a happening whose scale is a millionth of a millimeter, whose rhythm is a millionth of a second, and whose protagonist are in their essence invisible

PRIMO LEVI, "The Periodic Table"