

Degree	Type	Year
Biology	FB	1

Contact

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Teaching groups languages

You can view this information at the [end](#) of this document.

Prerequisites

It is very convenient that the student is clear about the contents of the subjects of chemistry, physics and mathematics of baccalaureate. It is highly recommended to do the propaedeutic courses of chemistry if you have not studied chemistry in 2nd year of baccalaureate or access through a higher cycle.

Objectives and Contextualisation

Many of the vital processes studied in different subjects of this Degree are based on the properties, interactions and reactivity of molecules. Chemistry is, therefore, a basic tool to develop other subjects within the degree of Biology.

The objectives of the subject of "Chemistry" are to study and understand the properties and behavior of matter and its transformation, as an essential theoretical basis to understand the laws that govern many biological processes, through knowing the current scientific models that explain them.

Learning Outcomes

1. CM01 (Competence) Assess the environmental impact of chemical compounds and processes.
2. CM02 (Competence) Review gender differences in relation to exposure and sensitivity to chemicals.
3. KM01 (Knowledge) Relate the rules of work and operation of a chemical laboratory.
4. KM02 (Knowledge) Make Lewis structures of organic chemical compounds, predicting their geometry and molecular properties on the basis of this geometry.
5. KM03 (Knowledge) Identify the functional groups and reactivity of organic groups present in biomolecules.
6. KM04 (Knowledge) Identify oxidation and reduction processes in biological systems.
7. SM01 (Skill) Solve basic chemistry problems by applying the laws governing chemical equilibrium, as well as the principles of thermodynamics and kinetics to biological processes.
8. SM02 (Skill) Perform basic experiments in chemistry including the preparation of solutions and handling of reagents.

Content

Item 1. Fundamentals of Chemistry: What do you need to know to get started? Experimental sciences and scientific method. Chemistry and biology. Matter, its properties and its physical states. Ideal gas laws. Chemical change: historical approach, fundamental laws. The mole. Concentrations. Dissolutions. Experimental measurement of concentrations.

Item 2. Structure of matter: What is matter like inside? Element, compound, atom, molecule, periodic table. Compounds and chemical bonding. Intermolecular forces.

Item 3. The carbon cycle: From carbon dioxide to ester. Carbon and living beings: origin and chemical transformations. Organic substances, the framework of life: properties and structure Molecular geometry. Isomerism. Metals and biology: life beyond carbon.

Item 4. Chemical reactions in biological systems. The molecular basis of chemical reactions. Heterolytic reactions. Homolytic reactions. Oxidation and reduction. Reaction mechanisms that lead to the chemistry of life.

Item 5. Energy: What causes a chemical reaction to occur? What is energy? Energy transfer. Energy exchanges during chemical reactions in chemical and biological systems: Enthalpy. Entropy: the distribution of energy as an engine of change. Spontaneous processes and non-spontaneous processes. Gibbs energy: free energy to do chemical and biochemical work (metabolism).

Item 6. Chemical equilibrium: How far do chemical reactions go? Reversible reactions: where is the balance? The reaction quotient. Disturbing a balance. Gibbs energy and chemical equilibrium.

Item 7. Acids, bases and buffer solutions: life in the aqueous medium. Strength of acids and bases: to what extent does the dissociation reaction occur? Keeping things in balance: the ionic product of water. Measuring concentrations: the pH scale. Behavior of acids and bases in biological systems. Buffer solutions or buffer: maintaining the pH.

Item 8. Kinetics: What affects the rate of a chemical reaction? The speed of reaction. Collision theory. The activation energy. Catalysis.

Activities and Methodology

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Type: Directed			
Exercise classes	12	0.48	CM01, CM02, KM02, KM03, KM04, SM01, CM01
Lab session	8	0.32	CM01, CM02, KM01, KM03, KM04, SM01, SM02, CM01
Magistral courses	30	1.2	CM01, CM02, KM02, KM03, KM04, SM01, CM01
Type: Supervised			
Tutoring	3	0.12	CM01, CM02, KM01, KM02, KM03, KM04, SM01, SM02, CM01
Type: Autonomous			
Resolution of exercises	20	0.8	CM01, CM02, KM02, KM03, KM04, SM01, CM01
Revision activities	12	0.48	CM01, CM02, KM02, KM03, KM04, SM01, CM01

The acquisition of knowledge requires autonomous work on the part of the students, beyond the face-to-face work in the classroom. Under these conditions, the use of one of the textbooks recommended by the teaching staff (or similar bibliographic material), together with the own notes, can represent a good support to overcome the expected learning of this subject.

The development of the course is based on the following activities:

Theoretical classes:

The teaching staff will work on the basic contents related to the program, which the students must complete with autonomous work, and will solve the students' questions. In the last classes of the course, 15 minutes of class will be reserved so that students can respond to the survey on the subject.

Classroom Practices (PA):

Students must prepare at home the programmed problems, which will be discussed in class with the problem teachers. In addition, group problems will be solved that will have to be delivered at the end of the PA sessions.

Laboratory practices:

There will be two practices in the laboratory to which some of the knowledge acquired in the master classes will be applied.

Tutorials:

At specific times and considering the difficulties of the students, the teaching staff will offer an hour of tutoring.

Annotation: Within the schedule set by the centre or degree programme, 15 minutes of one class will be reserved for students to evaluate their lecturers and their courses or modules through questionnaires.

Assessment

Continous Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Lab session	15%	2	0.08	CM01, CM02, KM01, SM02
Partial exams	35% + 35%	6	0.24	CM01, CM02, KM01, KM02, KM03, KM04, SM01, SM02
Revision activities	15%	7	0.28	CM01, CM02, KM02, KM03, KM04, SM01

The correct achievement of the competences by the students will be evaluated through 3 types of evaluation activities, each with a specific weight in the final grade and with specific requirements.

1. Partial exams: Throughout the course there will be 2 written partial exams of the contents (theory, problems) taught until that moment of the course. The weight of each partial in the final grade is 35%. It will be necessary to obtain a 4 out of 10 of each of the two partials to make average with the rest of the notes.

2. Review activities: Throughout the semester problems will be raised to solve during the group problem class. At the end of the course it will be necessary to do a group research work on an interdisciplinary topic of chemistry and biology.... These activities will be evaluated and their average will have a weight of 15% in the overall grade. There are no minimum grade requirements.

3. Laboratory practices: After the practice session, which will be done in groups of two people, each group must answer a questionnaire of brief questions about the practice that will be delivered before leaving the laboratory and will be used to determine the practice note. A minimum grade of 4.0 out of 10 in each questionnaire will be necessary to be able to count it in the overall grade. The laboratory note has a weight of 15% with respect to the overall grade. Attendance at the practices is mandatory to be able to pass the subject.

Thus, the overall note will come out of the formula:

$$\text{Overall grade} = \text{Exams} * 0.70 + \text{Review} * 0.15 + \text{Laboratory} * 0.15$$

The subject will be considered passed when the overall grade thus calculated is equal to or greater than 5 points out of 10. It is important to bear in mind that, if the grade of any of the two partial exams does not reach 4.0, if the grade of each practice questionnaire does not reach 4.0 or if a practice session has been unjustifiably absent, the subject will be suspended, even if the overall grade of the subject is greater than 5.

Students will be able to opt for a recovery test at the end of the course. To participate in the recovery, students must have been previously evaluated in a set of activities whose weight is equivalent to a minimum of two thirds of the total grade of the subject or module. Therefore, students will obtain the qualification of "Not Evaluable" when the evaluation activities carried out have a weighting of less than 67% in the final grade. The recovery may be of any of the parts for which the minimum grade requirements have not been exceeded (first and / or second partial, practices) or of the total contents when no part has been passed. The recovery grade will replace the corresponding grade in the calculation of the overall grade by the subject. The recovery will consist of a written exam of two parts, corresponding to the two partials, and it will be necessary to take at least a 4 of each of the parts that have to be recovered.

UNIQUE ASSESSMENT

The single evaluation consists of a single synthesis test in which the contents of the entire theory program of the subject will be evaluated. The test will consist of multiple-choice questions, open-ended questions and numerical problems. The grade obtained in this synthesis test will represent 85% of the final grade of the subject.

The evaluation of laboratory practice activities, PAUL, will follow the same process of continuous evaluation. The grade obtained will represent 15% of the final grade of the subject.

Bibliography

1. J. Crowe, T. Bradshaw. *Chemistry for the Biosciences*. Ed. Oxford University Press.
2. R. H. Petrucci *Química General* Ed. Pearson Prentice Hall. Electronic book:
https://bibcercador.uab.cat/permalink/34CSUC_UAB/avjcib/alma991006206279706709
3. P. Atkins *Principios de Química* Ed. Paamericana.
4. R. Chang, *Química*, Ed. Mc Graw Hill.

Software

There is no computer programs associated to this subject.

Groups and Languages

Please note that this information is provisional until 30 November 2025. You can check it through this [link](#). To consult the language you will need to enter the CODE of the subject.

Name	Group	Language	Semester	Turn
(PAUL) Classroom practices	111	Catalan	first semester	morning-mixed
(PAUL) Classroom practices	112	Catalan	first semester	morning-mixed
(TE) Theory	11	Catalan	first semester	afternoon