

Industrial Organic Chemistry

Code: 102495
ECTS Credits: 6

2025/2026

Degree	Type	Year
Chemistry	OT	4

Contact

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Teachers

Roser Pleixats Rovira

Teaching groups languages

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

Prerequisites

- It is recommended to have passed the subject "Structure and Reactivity of Organic Compounds"
- Although the classes are in catalan, much of the material that the student will have to work, as well as the main bibliographical sources are written in English. Therefore a sufficient knowledge of this language is recommended

Objectives and Contextualisation

Goals

In the course "Industrial Organic Chemistry" the processes for obtaining the main organic products of industrial use are studied. A "downstream" approach starting from the raw materials: oil, natural gas, coal, and renewable feedstocks, is used.

The specific objectives of the subject are:

- To introduce the student to the characteristics and peculiarities of the "Organic Chemistry Industry" of large and medium tonnage from the technological and economic point of view.
- To know the production routes of the main organic chemicals of first and second generation and some important others of later generations.
- To know the properties and applications of the main industrial organic chemicals, as well as the environmental impact of their production and use.

- To familiarize the student with the common characteristics and differences of the main industrial chemical sectors.

Competences

- Adapt to new situations.
- Be ethically committed.
- Communicate orally and in writing in one's own language.
- Develop synthesis and analyses studies in chemistry from previously established procedures.
- "Interpret data obtained by means of experimental measures, including the use of IT tools; identify their meaning and relate the data with appropriate chemistry, physics or biology theories."
- Lead and coordinate work groups.
- Learn autonomously.
- Manage, analyse and synthesise information.
- Manage the organisation and planning of tasks.
- Obtain information, including by digital means.
- Propose creative ideas and solutions.
- Reason in a critical manner
- Recognise and analyse chemical problems and propose suitable answers or studies to resolve them.
- Resolve problems and make decisions.
- Show an understanding of the basic concepts, principles, theories and facts of the different areas of chemistry.
- Show initiative and an enterprising spirit.
- Show motivation for quality.
- Show sensitivity for environmental issues.
- Use IT to treat and present information.
- Use the English language properly in the field of chemistry.
- Work in a team and show concern for interpersonal relations at work.

Learning Outcomes

1. Adapt to new situations.
2. Analyse texts related to real situations in the context of industrial chemistry and understand the different alternatives proposed to solve problems.
3. Be ethically committed.
4. Communicate orally and in writing in one's own language.
5. Correlate analytical information obtained with one's own information on the studied environmental industrial/process.
6. Design reasonable synthetic procedures for everyday products made from prime materials.
7. Explain the origins and main characteristics of the chemicals industry as an economic sector.
8. Identify the production methods of the main sectors of the chemicals industry with different production levels: commodities and fine chemicals.
9. Identify the relevant aspects of organic and inorganic chemistry in related industrial sectors.
10. Lead and coordinate work groups.
11. Learn autonomously.
12. Manage, analyse and synthesise information.
13. Manage the organisation and planning of tasks.
14. Obtain information, including by digital means.
15. Propose creative ideas and solutions.
16. Reason in a critical manner
17. Recognise the applications of the main organic and inorganic products, and the economic and environmental implications related with their production and distribution.
18. Recognise the industrial methods for obtaining basic products of the chemicals industry.
19. Resolve problems and make decisions.
20. Show initiative and an enterprising spirit.

21. Show motivation for quality.
22. Show sensitivity for environmental issues.
23. Summarise an article written in English in a reasonable time.
24. Use common English terminology for industrial chemistry, electrochemistry and corrosion, environmental chemistry, green chemistry, quality management, monitoring systems, and financial and business management.
25. Use IT to treat and present information.
26. Work in a team and show concern for interpersonal relations at work.
27. Work with the main databases available on the Internet dealing with the physical and chemical properties of pollutants and chemical compounds in general, and learn to select specifically useful data.

Content

Contents:

- 1.- Introduction. The chemical industry
- 2.- Chemical products derived from natural gas and oil
- 3.- Chemical products and polymers derived from ethylene (C2) and their applications
- 4.- Chemical products and polymers derived from propylene (C3) and their applications
- 5.- Chemical products and polymers derived from fractions C4 and C5 and their applications.
- 6.- Chemical products derived from benzene and their applications.
- 7.- Chemical products derived from toluene and xilenes and their applications.
- 8.- Chemical products derived from C1 compounds and their applications. Synthesis gas
- 9.- Chemical products derived from coal and their applications.
- 10.- Fats and natural oils as raw materials.
- 11.- Carbohydrates as raw materials. Fermentation and biotechnology in the chemical industry
- 12.- Main industrial manufacturing sectors: polymers, detergents, dyes, pesticides, pharmaceutical products, and food additives
- 13.- Green chemistry in the chemical industry

Activities and Methodology

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Type: Directed			
Autonomous work	1	0.04	2, 12, 14, 17, 19, 23, 27, 25
Master classes	35	1.4	2, 5, 6, 7, 9, 8, 18, 17, 27, 24
Problem solving classes	9	0.36	6, 8, 18, 17, 19

Seminars	2	0.08	1, 2, 11, 4, 20, 21, 12, 13, 10, 3, 22, 14, 15, 16, 23, 26, 25, 24
Type: Supervised			
Tutorials	4	0.16	11, 20, 21, 22, 15, 16, 19
Type: Autonomous			
Problem solving	14	0.56	11, 12, 16, 19
Study	45	1.8	11, 7, 12, 13, 8, 14, 16, 17, 19, 23, 25
Text reading	12	0.48	11, 14, 23
Writting of a bibliographic memory and preparation of its public presentation	21	0.84	2, 11, 4, 20, 21, 12, 13, 10, 22, 14, 15, 16, 18, 23, 27, 26, 25, 24

Methodology:

Students must develop various types of activities throughout this subject:

- a) Directed activities: In the classroom master classes will be held on the contents of the subject. Some of these classes will be dedicated to the discussion of topics of current interest. In addition, problems will be analyzed and solved once the subject has advanced sufficiently to take advantage of them. The student will consolidate the knowledge acquired in theory and problem classes by preparing a specific report on a particular topic related with the subject that will be presented and defended in public in front of the class as a seminar.
- b) Supervised activities: Tutorials will be conducted to monitor the performance of the work that the student must present in public and also to solve any doubt that arises through the development of the course
- c) Autonomous activities: Students must study the contents of the subject, prepare the topics for the discussions, solve the problems, and prepare the report and seminar to be presented in public.

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
Module of written tests	80%	6	0.24	1, 11, 4, 5, 21, 6, 7, 12, 9, 8, 3, 22, 14, 15, 18, 17, 19, 23, 27, 25, 24
Seminar module	20%	1	0.04	2, 11, 4, 20, 21, 12, 13, 9, 10, 22, 14, 15, 16, 17, 23, 27, 26, 25

Evaluation

There will be a continuous evaluation of the competences that will include a written bibliography work (presented in a seminar) and two exams.

The evaluation system is organized into modules, each with a specific weight in the final grade:

Seminar module: The ability to search information on a topic related to a type of industrial product or regarding a type of chemical industry as well as the ability to synthesize the information obtained and the presentation and defense in public will be evaluated. This module will have a global weight of 20% in the final grade, but its completion is mandatory to pass the subject.

Module of written exams: It will consist of two partial exams with a weight of 40% each in the final grade

The subject will be considered passed when the average of the qualifications of the modules is equal or superior to 5 points out of 10, provided that a minimum of 3.5 points out of 10 has been obtained for each of the two written partial exams, and the oral presentation of the work of the seminar module has been done. Students that do not pass the minimum score in the first and/or in the second written exam, and those with an average of less than 5 points will be able to take a global recovery exam. Students that want to improve their grade can also take this recovery exam, but in any case, the realization of the recovery exam implies giving up the qualification obtained in the partial exams

According to regulations, "in order to be allowed to attend the recovery exam, the student has had to have been previously evaluated continuous assessment activities equivalent to 2/3 of the final grade." Therefore, in the specific case of this subject this implies that having done all the activities of continuous evaluation is an indispensable condition to be allowed to assist to the recovery exam.

If the student has only been assessed for a maximum of 33% of the evaluation activities and leaves, the final grade will be NON-ASSESSABLE

The UAB regulations establish:

"10. In case the student performs any irregularity that could lead to a significant variation of the grade of an evaluation act, this evaluation will be scored with 0, regardless of the disciplinary process that can be instructed. In case several irregularities are produced, the final grade of this subject will be 0."

The students who have taken the single assessment modality will have to take a final test which will consist of an examination of ALL the syllabus of the subject to be taken on the day when the students of the continuous assessment take the second part exam. This test will have a weight of 80% on the overall mark. The remaining 20% of the grade will be achieved with the presentation, both in writing and also through an oral presentation, of a specific work on an industrial product, as previously detailed in the Seminars module. At the moment of the single assessment (written exam), these students will also have to present the specific work in the written form, as well as the power point of the oral presentation and a recording of the oral presentation of this work. The student who does not achieve a pass in the written exam has another opportunity to pass the subject through a make-up exam that will coincide with the date of the make-up exam scheduled for continuous assessment students. Written and oral work corresponding to the Seminar is compulsory and cannot be recovered.

For this subject, the use of artificial intelligence (AI) technologies is allowed exclusively in support tasks, such as bibliographic or information searches.

The lack of transparency in the use of AI in assessable activities will be considered a lack of academic honesty and may lead to a partial or total penalty in the grade of the activity.

The student must clearly identify which parts have been generated with this technology, specify the tools used and include a critical reflection on its influence on the process and the final result of the activity.

Bibliography

Bibliography:

Industrial Organic Chemicals, H. A. Wittcoff, B. G. Reuben, J. S. Plotkin, 3rd Edition. Wiley 2012 (electronic version of 2013)

Industrial Organic Chemistry, H. J. Arpe, 5th Edition. Verlag Chemie 2010 (there is an electronic version of the 4th edition, 2008)

Software

No specific software is required

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	1	Catalan	second semester	morning-mixed
(SEM) Seminars	1	Catalan	second semester	morning-mixed
(TE) Theory	1	Catalan	second semester	morning-mixed