Introduction to Inorganic Chemistry

CHMB31H3

Syllabus

Welcome to the amazing, complex and colorful world of inorganic chemistry, a chemistry discipline that deals with all chemical elements (natural and artificial), their properties and reactivities. There are 92 naturally occurring elements and as you can imagine, the material can be rather overwhelming. Essential for successful mastering of the inorganic chemistry material is solid understanding and knowledge of material from introductory chemistry courses (CHMA10H3 and CHMA11H3). Using this knowledge as a basis, inorganic chemistry can be turned into a piece of cake (a somewhat big piece, but still a piece...). Keep in mind that these 92 naturally occurring elements, these 92 LEGO blocks, are what all the stuff is made of: from the most distant stars and galaxies to the tiniest grain of dust in my office. This means that inorganic chemistry is everywhere.

Our course material is divided in two parts. The first part will cover introductory topics. You have already encountered most of this material in CHMA10H3 and CHMA11H3 courses and it would be a good idea to refresh your memory (the detailed topic list is given below). During this part we shall not only review these basic concepts but also further expand and apply them to the problems that are more related to the inorganic chemistry material. The second part of the course will cover the descriptive chemistry—the chemistry of the elements—for hydrogen and elements of Groups 1, 2 and 13-18 (or the main group chemistry).

Here is a detailed list of our topics (the chapter numbers are from our textbook Shriver & Atkins' Inorganic Chemistry 6th edition):

\textbf{Part 1: Fundamental concepts}

1. Inorganic chemistry — a general introduction to the discipline and our course
2. The Elements – what are they? (Chapter 1 and on-line materials)
   a. Atoms and their structure
   b. Electronic structure
   c. Structure of nucleus, radioactivity, fission and fusion
   d. Nucleosynthesis: the birth of elements in stars and laboratory (basics of stellar and interstellar inorganic chemistry and artificial nuclear reactions)
   e. The periodic table of the elements: Overview

   NOTE: Topics 2a, 2b, and 2e are related to the first year chemistry material and it would be a good idea to refresh your old knowledge early!

3. Molecules, compounds and bonding (Chapter 2)
   a. Lewis bonding model and VSEPR theory
   b. Valence bond (VB) theory
   c. Basics of molecular orbital (MO) theory

   NOTE: Topics 3a, and 3b have been covered in great detail in the first year. In this case, solid prior knowledge is expected! We shall devote significant portion of our time to MO theory (3c.)

4. Review of Important concepts:
   a. Chemical equilibrium
   b. Thermodynamics
   c. Types of inorganic reactions
   d. Redox reactions and electrochemistry (Chapter 5)
   e. Acids, bases and their reactions (Chapter 4)

   NOTE: Topics 4a, 4b, and 4c are not covered in the textbook but we really need them. You can use your CHMA10H3 and CHM11H3 textbook and/or notes as sources (that should be adequate) to review this important material; solid prior knowledge is expected! Topics 4d and 4e are covered in the textbook but as you'll see most of it is again an important revision of CHMA10H3/CHM11H3 material with some new concepts added.

5. Structure of simple solids (Chapter 3)
   a. Describing the structure of solids
   b. Metals and alloys; metallic bonding
   c. Ionic solids; ionic bonding
   d. Thermochemistry and energetics of solid formation
Part II: Main group chemistry

6. Periodic table revisited (Chapter 9)
   a. Periodic trends
   b. Basic classes of inorganic compounds and their periodic characteristics

7. Hydrogen (Chapter 10)

8. The Group 1 elements (Chapter 11)

9. The Group 2 elements (Chapter 12)

10. The Group 13 elements (Chapter 13)

11. The Group 14 elements (Chapter 14)

12. The Group 15 elements (Chapter 15)

13. The Group 16 elements (Chapter 16)

14. The Group 17 elements (Chapter 17)

15. The Group 18 elements (Chapter 18)

Some special topics that will be covered only if the time permits:

1. Special topic I – Inorganic chemistry in nature I: Introduction to inorganic chemistry in living systems and medicinal inorganic chemistry

2. Special topic II – Inorganic chemistry in nature II: Introduction to mineralogy: silicate and carbonate minerals (we shall cover silicates and carbonates within Group 14; this 'Special topic' is intended as an extension.)


The readings and problems from your textbook will be given to you at the end of each lecture in your lecture notes. The lecture notes will be posted on the Blackboard regularly in pdf format. These notes are providing you with the overview of important concepts, ideas etc. and are the basis for class discussions and lectures. They will be your primary source – master
them first and after move to the textbook to expand your knowledge and then (only if you want to) check other sources.

**Knowledge of material from both lecture notes and relevant textbook readings is expected.**

Topics 1 – 7 are reviews and expansion of CHMA10 and CHMA11 materials thus we will not spend much time on them during the lectures. This does not mean that you will not be tested on this material – its solid knowledge is essential for inorganic chemistry.

You might know by now that there is WebOption for this course as well. Regardless of this fact, I strongly encourage you to attend the lectures regularly. There is a lot of material to be covered. If you do not attend the lectures and wait for the Web cast, you will easily end up having to watch hours and hours of material – really not a good idea to master this subject. If you come to the lectures and use WebOption only in a case of sickness or class conflicts, or to fill in your notes, you'll remain on the top of the material covered and be more successful in the course (in comparison to only relying on WebOption).

This course (unfortunately) does not have tutorials in the program. However, just like during previous years, we shall have some practice time during the class.

**Laboratory Component of CHMB31H3**

The laboratory component starts during the second week of classes and runs every other week. There are in total 5 experiments to be performed, each designed to demonstrate basic points from the lectures:

- **Experiment 1:** Acid-base and redox chemistry
- **Experiment 2:** The chemistry of groups 1 and 2
- **Experiment 3:** The chemistry of groups 13 and 14
- **Experiment 4:** The chemistry of groups 15 and 16
- **Experiment 5:** The chemistry of group 17 and inorganic analysis

Although every effort has been made to ensure that the experiments closely follow the lecture content, due to scheduling and other issues related to the
organization of this course and classes in general, this is not always the case.

**Keep in mind that the laboratory component of this course is mandatory.** Other details regarding the laboratory (i.e. requirements, best practices etc.) you will find in the introduction part of the lab manual. The complete lab manual will be posted on the Blackboard portal as a .pdf file and is free of charge.

**Experiment/lab schedule**

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<tr>
<th>Week of</th>
<th>Practical groups</th>
<th>Experiment</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 8th</td>
<td>PRA001, PRA003 &amp; PRA005</td>
<td>Experiment 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 15th</td>
<td>PRA002, PRA004 &amp; PRA006</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 22nd</td>
<td>PRA001, PRA003 &amp; PRA005</td>
<td>Experiment 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 29th</td>
<td>PRA002, PRA004 &amp; PRA006</td>
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<td>Oct. 6th</td>
<td>PRA001, PRA003 &amp; PRA005</td>
<td>Experiment 3</td>
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<td>Oct. 13th</td>
<td>Reading week – no classes no labs</td>
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<td>Oct. 20th</td>
<td>PRA002, PRA004 &amp; PRA006</td>
<td>Experiment 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 27th</td>
<td>PRA001, PRA003 &amp; PRA005</td>
<td>Experiment 4</td>
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<td>Nov. 3rd</td>
<td>PRA002, PRA004 &amp; PRA006</td>
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<td>Nov. 10th</td>
<td>PRA001, PRA003 &amp; PRA005</td>
<td>Experiment 5</td>
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<td>Nov. 17th</td>
<td>PRA002, PRA004 &amp; PRA006</td>
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**New This Year 1: Optional Online Quizzing from Sapling Learning**

This year CHMB31 has teamed up with Sapling Learning to create on-line quizzes designed specifically for the CHMB31 material. The online quizzing is an optional component of your grade—those of you who decide to join Sapling Learning quizzing will have somewhat different marking scheme than those who chose not to do online quizzing. The schemes are given below.

You have till the end of the first week of classes to decide if you are going to do on-line quizzing. After this deadline, you will not be able change your choice because the first online quiz is expected
at the end of the second week (and we need to have the number of students participating set up well in advance).

A survey will be posted on the Blackboard asking you if you are going to do the on-line quizzing. You have to purchase the access for the quizzes! Details on how to join Sapling learning will be posted on the blackboard before the classes start.

**New This year 2: Facilitated study groups (FSG) for CHMB31H3**

Following up the suggestion from previous year, we are establishing the Facilitated Study Groups for CHMB31H3. These weekly study sessions are open to everyone in the class. Attendance is voluntary, but students who attend regularly often earn higher grades. Please be sure to fill out the survey in the first week of class to help ensure the study groups are scheduled at optimal times. If you have any questions, please ask your facilitator, or visit the FSG website at [http://ctl.utsc.utoronto.ca/home/fsg](http://ctl.utsc.utoronto.ca/home/fsg).

**Marking Schemes**

**Marking Scheme without on-line quizzing:**
- Laboratory component = 25%
- 2 term tests, 20% each = 40%
- Final exam = 35%

**Marking Scheme with on-line quizzing:**
- Laboratory component = 25%
- On-line quizzes = 5%
- 2 term tests, 18% each = 36%
- Final exam = 34%

Both term tests will be composed of short answer questions and for each you'll have 90 min to write. Some details will be communicated on the Blackboard portal and/or in class prior to each exam. The first term test is going to be in late October (date/place TBA). It will cover all material from
the lecture 1 up to the week of the test. The second term test (late November; date/place also TBA) is going to cover the material covered between first term test and second term test.

The final exam is cumulative with about 1/3 of questions covering material from the first half of the course (material from the first term test) and 2/3 of questions covering the second part of the course (material covered after the first term test). The final will have both multiple choice and short answer questions and will take 3 hours.

Sapling Learning is currently working on the

Office hours and contact info

My office is located in the Science Wing, 6th floor, room SW633. The office hours schedule will be posted on the Blackboard portal (under 'Contact') prior to the start of the semester. You can pay me a visit before the semester starts and announcement of the regular office hours.

I can also be reached via e-mail: ahadzovic@utsc.utoronto.ca.

CHMB31H3 Resources

Your textbook:

Also only recommended:

Other suggested books

This is an excellent inorganic chemistry textbook. Importantly for us, it has a very good coverage of nucleosynthesis and formation of elements in the stars. The rest of it is an advanced reading. If you would like to explore and learn more about the elements, their properties and compounds, this book is a great starting point. It covers in particular detail the elements, their properties and compounds.


Some popular books (non-textbooks) on chemical elements:


There are many other popular science books dealing with the elements, their birth and occurrence, their compounds and history. Some of them can be found in UTSC library!
On the web

**VISUAL ELEMENTS PERIODIC TABLE**
www.rsc.org/chemsoc/visualelements/pages/periodic_table.html
A beautiful and artistic representation of periodic table and the elements

**WEBELEMENTS**
www.webelements.com
Provides a lot of data for each element (but I find it a bit messy)

**WEBMINERAL**
www.webmineral.com
Minerals are only one place where we can find inorganic chemistry in nature.

**THE GUIDED TOURS OF METALLOPROTEINS**
http://www.chem.utoronto.ca/coursenotes/GTM/main.htm
The other place where we find inorganic chemistry is in us and all other living creatures!

**GOOD LUCK AND SEE YOU SOON!!**

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