

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

Programme Code: S364100AY

Programme Title:

Chemistry with Forensic Analysis

Awarding Institution:

Queen's University Belfast

Teaching Institution:

Programme Accredited By:

Recognised by the Royal Society of Chemistry.

Final Award:

BSc

UCAS Code:

F1F4

QAA Benchmarking Group:

Chemistry (2007) - Stages 1, 2, 3

Educational Aims of Programme

The overall aims of this undergraduate programme are to offer a high quality, supportive teaching and learning environment that gives students the opportunity to:

1. Understand the core principles of chemistry with an emphasis in Forensic Analysis.
2. Progress directly from the BSc to graduate level employment in chemical, forensic, analytical and non-chemistry related areas.
3. Enhance employability skills including the ability to work in a team, written and oral presentation skills, numeracy and preparation for self motivated lifelong learning, professional development and service to society.

Criteria for Admission (Subject Specific Requirements) to Programme

The minimum entry requirement is normally **BBC** at A Level or equivalent if entry is from UCAS into level 1, to include Chemistry and ideally one other physical science and / or maths.

Candidates who do not meet the above academic requirements will be considered on an individual basis where there is evidence of experience in a relevant area..

International candidates require, at least a British Council IELTS qualification scored at a standard of 6.5. TOEFL scores are accepted with thresholds of: 577 (paper); 233 (computer).

NB For current general University requirements go to <http://www.qub.ac.uk/ado>

Additional Relevant Information

Stages one, two and three of this programme are benchmarked against the QAA benchmarks for the subject area.

The programme is subject to the University General Regulations, which can be found at:

<http://www.qub.ac.uk/directorates/AcademicStudentAffairs/AcademicAffairs/>

For Further Information refer to

The School website: <http://www.ch.qub.ac.uk/education.html>

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Programme Structure, Levels, Modules and Credits

Module assessments have the following characteristics:

- Assessment criteria are linked to learning outcomes for each module.
- A wide range of assessment methods is used.

Stage 1

Students must take 120 CATS points. All modules are compulsory except modules CHM1015 and CHE1006 which require different levels of mathematical ability.

	Status	Code	Title	Pre-Requisites	CATS	STATUS
	Compulsory	CHM1011	Basic Chemistry 1	A level Chemistry	20	LIVE
	Compulsory	CHE1001	Chemical Engineering1(i)		20	LIVE
	Compulsory	CHM1010	Physical Theory		10	LIVE
	Optional	CHM1015	Skills for physical Chemistry		10	LIVE
	Optional	CHE1006	Chemical Engineering1(ii)	A-level Maths	10	LIVE
	Compulsory	CHM1012	Organic Chemistry 1		20	LIVE
	Compulsory	CHM1013	Inorganic Chemistry 1		20	LIVE
	Compulsory	CHM1014	Physical Chemistry 1		20	LIVE

Stage 2

Students must take 120 CATS points. All modules are compulsory.

	Status	Code	Title	Pre-Requisites	CATS	STATUS
	Compulsory	CHM2002	Structural Chemistry	CHM1011 CHM1012	20	LIVE
	Compulsory	CHM2005	Quantum Theory, Spectroscopy and Bonding	CHM1011 CHM1012	20	LIVE
	Compulsory	CHM2003	Organic Chemistry 2	CHM1011 CHM1012	20	LIVE
	Compulsory	CHM2004	Inorganic Chemistry 2	CHM1011 CHM1012	20	LIVE

Compulsory	CHM2001	Physical Chemistry 2	CHM1011 CHM1012	20	LIVE
Compulsory	CHM2011	Principles of Instrumental Analysis		20	LIVE

Stage 3

Students must take 120 CATS points. All modules are compulsory.

Status	Code	Title	Pre-Requisites	CATS	STATUS
Compulsory	CHM3008	Project Work in Chemistry		40	LIVE
Compulsory	CHM3001	Inorganic Chemistry 3	CHM2004	20	LIVE
Compulsory	CHM3002	Organic Chemistry 3: Structure and Reactivity	CHM2003	20	LIVE
Compulsory	CHM3003	Physical Chemistry 3	CHM2001/5	20	LIVE
Compulsory	CHM3011	Advanced Forensic and Analytical Science		20	LIVE

Awards, Credits and Progression of Learning Outcomes

Examinations / Assessment

The program is governed by general university regulations. All students are required to undertake 120 CATS points of modules per year. Most modules in the programme consist of a combination of theory and compulsory laboratory exercises. The theory is assessed by a combination of tutorials, workshops and by examination. The formal Stage 1 and 2 examinations will take place at the end of the semester in which the course is delivered. All taught courses at Stages 3 will be examined in May / June so as not to interfere with the research project in January / February. Laboratory work is assessed by the quality of the work and results produced as well as by the quality of written reports on the experiments. The overall pass mark for all modules is 40 % but students will be allowed to pass on a 35% theory mark so long as their overall mark is greater than 40%. Coursework and project work will be assessed according to defined conceptual equivalents in line with those stated within QUB assessment policies.

Awards and progression

Students will be allowed to proceed from Stage 1 to Stage 2 when they have passed the equivalent of five Stage 1 modules, to include CHM1011, CHM1012 and CHM1013. Any outstanding Stage 1 modules must be cleared before entry to Stage 3.

Students who have not passed a Stage 1 or 2 module examination at the first sitting must attempt the examination again in August of that year, or the next available opportunity. Students with failed laboratory based coursework will be required to repeat the coursework the following year. All repeated coursework and examinations will be awarded a maximum mark of 40%. Students are only permitted four attempts at Stage 1 and Stage 2 examinations.

Students will be allowed to proceed from Stage 2 to Stage 3 when they have passed at least five Stage 2 modules and no outstanding failed Stage 1 modules. Students who have gained a course average of over 55% will be permitted to transfer to the MSci Chemistry Programme.

The weighting between years follows the standard University regulations for a 3 year degree at:
Entry 2008 or before: Stage 2 – 25%, Stage 3 – 75%.
Entry 2009 or after: Stage 1 – 10%, Stage 2 – 30%, Stage 3 – 60%.
The predominance rule will be used to decide classifications at borderlines.

The degree will be classified in accordance with the University General Regulations, Study Regulations and Mark Scales..

Learning Outcomes: Knowledge and Understanding

On successful completion of this programme students will have gained:

1. A conceptual understanding of the fundamental aspects of organic, inorganic, physical, analytical and forensic chemistry.
2. Knowledge of the characteristic chemistry and properties of the elements and group relationships and trends within the periodic table.
3. Knowledge of chemical bonding, shape and structure.
4. Familiarity with the chemistry of functional groups and major synthetic pathways in organic chemistry.
5. Knowledge of the principles of thermodynamics and kinetics, including catalysis and the mechanistic interpretation of chemical reactions.
6. An awareness of the major techniques used in structure elucidation including spectroscopy and in chemical analysis.
7. Experience of a range of contemporary analytical techniques used in conjunction with a number of forensic case studies.
8. Appreciation of major contemporary issues at the forefront of chemistry.
9. The ability to integrate the above concepts necessary to reach a broad and balanced understanding of chemistry.
10. The ability to apply chemical concepts to other areas of science, technology, and industry and appreciate the importance of chemistry in these wider contexts.

Teaching and Assessment Methods: Knowledge and Understanding

Acquisition of subject knowledge is achieved mainly through lectures supported by independent study. Regular seminars and occasional workshops are used to reinforce the ideas introduced in lectures, particularly in the core subject areas, emphasising the use of core knowledge to solve problems. The majority of the taught courses at Stages 1, 2 and 3 contain a mixture of assessment procedures, with a summative written examination providing not less than 50% of the course. Continuous assessment of course material include a variety of assessment procedures, depending on the subject matter including small group tutorials, assessed workshops, written essays, laboratory practicals, open and close book tests and presentations (at the higher Stages)

Learning Outcomes: Subject-specific Skills

On successful completion of this programme students will have gained:

1. Experience of scientific methodology.
2. Practical laboratory chemistry skills (knowledge of common apparatus and procedures).
3. Understanding of practical synthetic chemistry procedures.
4. A working knowledge of a range of analytical instrumentation.
5. Data analysis and processing techniques.
6. Skills in ensuring safe working practices in the laboratory and COSHH legislation.
7. Practical experience of handling hazardous materials.
8. Database and literature searching techniques.

Teaching and Assessment Methods: Subject-specific Skills

Practical marks account for about 25% of the final degree mark. Laboratory classes and exercises are integrated with the lecture courses in Stages 1 and 2 and provide a very wide range of learning situations. These are graded by continuous assessment and marks are awarded for the quality of the results and the manner in which they are presented. Both pre- and post-laboratory reports are required on all experiments at Stages 1 and 2. The final year project is assessed by continuous assessment and from an extensive word processed project report (dissertation) including a comprehensive literature review, to the standard of that expect in the current chemical literature.

Learning Outcomes: Cognitive Skills

On successful completion of this programme students will be able to:

1. Solve previously 'unseen' problems across the full breadth of chemistry.
2. Develop and use reflective practices to provide practical solutions by experimentation.
3. Read, understand and assimilate new information and subsume acquired knowledge into a concise manner and within various settings.
4. Design and carry out a major research project at the forefront of forensic and analytical chemistry.
5. Critically review and reflect upon their work.
6. Make value judgments on information in the public domain.

Teaching and Assessment Methods: Cognitive Skills

These are developed and assessed through the practical and project modules as described above. A weekly, small group tutorial scheme, (Stages 1, 2 and 3) requires written work to be submitted prior to the tutorial, allows students to develop their understanding of the subject area, gain confidence and has regular feedback.

Learning Outcomes: Transferable Skills

On successful completion of this programme students will be able to:

1. Effectively exert generic problem-solving skills.
2. Apply developed generic and subject specific IT skills (spreadsheets, word-process, structure drawing and modelling etc.).
3. Demonstrate numeracy and literacy skills.
4. Time manage and prioritise workloads.
5. Work within a team based environment and employ interpersonal skills, gained through participation in group projects.
6. Work effectively with a variety of instrumentation.

Teaching and Assessment Methods: Transferable Skills

- The majority of these are reviewed and revised from induction through the personal tutor and PDP programme.
- Communication, team and problem-solving skills are practised via tutorials.
- Numeracy and statistical analysis are constantly practised throughout the programme in practical reports.
- Students exercise these throughout the course through the normal assessment of course material, and explicitly marked in the final year project.
- Presentation skills are developed as the programme progresses, with a team poster presentation at Stage 1 through to a twenty minute presentation on their projects at Stage 3 to a peer group and staff panel.

Quality Arrangements

The programme will be subject to the normal quality assurance procedures:

- Annual Programme Review.
- Review of individual units will be done following completion of each module.
- Students will form part of the review teams.
- Student views also will be sought through 'Student Evaluation of Units' forms and Student Evaluation of Teachers' forms.
- Students on the programme will be represented on the Chemistry School Staff Consultative Committee.
- Students on the Programme will be provided with a Personal Tutor from the Chemistry Academic staff.