MANCHESTER 1824

School of Chemistry Teaching Survey 2013- 2014 - Year 1 Semester 1

The School uses this questionnaire of teaching quality in an attempt to identify problems and good practice. The results of this survey are circulated to students (*via the intranet*), all staff and are scrutinised at Faculty and University Levels. To be meaningful we therefore need to have as large a response as possible from students. Please take a few minutes to complete this questionnaire, by doing this, you will be helping us, yourself and others.

For each question please indicate your level of satisfaction by marking the appropriate number on the scales
1 = unsatisfactory; 3 = satisfactory; 5 = excellent

CHEM10101 Introductory Chemistry

Foundations of Chemistry - Dr F Mair	content	Replies: 75 Average: 3.9
	delivery	Replies: 75 Average: 4.1
Foundations of Chemistry - Dr Alan Brisdon	content	Replies: 79 Average: 4.2
	delivery	Replies: 79 Average: 4.3
Molecular Structure, Reactivity & Functionality - Dr T Wallace	content	Replies: 79 Average: 4.2
	delivery	Replies: 79 Average: 3.9
Molecular Structure, Reactivity & Functionality - Dr A C Regan	content	Replies: 79 Average: 4.4
	delivery	Replies: 79 Average: 4.3
States of Matter - Prof M W Anderson	content	Replies: 78 Average: 3.9
	delivery	Replies: 77 Average: 3.9

Best features
- AB delivery (2)
- AR notes (6)
- TW notes (2)
- Pace of lectures (4)
- MA diagrams
- Handouts (3)
- Good support (3)
- Step by Step annotations (2)
- Knowledgeable and passionate lecturers
- Online material
- Interesting content (2)
- Live experiments (3)
- BB notes (3)
- Demonstrations (5)
- Friendly
- Simplified everything
- Good number of lectures (2)

Worst features
- Workshops (5)
- Class sizes too large
- AB slides not shown long enough
- AB delivery
- MA notes
- Delivery (2)
- Lecturers don't respond to emails
- Variance in lecture speed (2)
- TW did not have online notes
- Bit tedious
- Complex content
- Historical info pointless (2)
- Everyday lectures meant it was easy to fall behind due to illness.
- Cannot see incorrect answers for assessed quizzes.
- Lectures overrunning
- No podcasts
- Unable to practise theory eg drawing M0s
- Experiments going wrong
- Having to hand in tutorial sheets when not all work has been completed (2)
- Lecture content feels rushed
- Physical could have more advanced notes (2)
- Not enough worked examples
- Time spent in lectures answering individual questions (3)
- No Q and A examples
- No markschemes

CHEM10520 Transferable Skills for Chemists

Content	Replies: 80 Average: 3.35					
Delivery	Replies: 80 Average: 2.7					
Relevant	Replies: 79	Very: 5.1%	quite: 36.7%	more or less: 24.1%	slightly: 34.2%	not at all: 0%

Best features
- Excel (13)
- Chemdraw (11)
- Learning to use new software
- Easily understandable notes
- Online tests (2)
- Interesting skills learnt
- Easy to gain marks
- Good to go through additional questions

Worst features
- Plagiarism (2)
- Handouts/assignments poorly explained (4)
- Not enough Excel explanation
- Little help given
- Some content too difficult (2)
- Felt 'wedged in'
- Pointless
- Should be taught how to download ChemDraw
- Excel
- Dull (2)
- Non-Chemistry sections
- Can be too long
- Little support

CHEM10511 Quantative Chemistry

Handbook	Replies 79 Average 4.2
Online Screencasts	Replies 49 Average 3.3
Online Practice Tests	Replies: 81 Average: 4.3
Drop-in Clinic	Replies: 38 Average: 3.1

Best features
- Manage own learning pace (2)
- Blue handout booklet (10)
- Accessible course
- Improved my Maths skills greatly
- Good to recap on Maths skills (3)
- Online practice (4)
- Easy to get marks (2)
- Individual work
- Good examples
- Good idea of questions that will be on the test
- Not too difficult

Worst features
- Not clear exactly what is in tests
- Wasn't aware of screencasts and drop in clinics
- Not enough practice questions (3)
- Handbook isn't very explanatory (2)
- No real reminders for exams
- Last exam worth 50%
- Needs extra classes for those without A-Level (3)
- Some mistakes in the answers
- Cannot view exam answers
- Only one online test (3)
- Large body of work (2)
- Online screencasts not helpful
- Redundant for those taking MATH19641
- No teaching time

Tutorials

How useful did you find your tutorial?	Replies: 82 Average: 4.1					
How many sessions did you attend?	Replies: 82	All: 80.5%	Most: 19.5%	Half: 0.0%	Few: 0.0%	None: 0%

What would encourage you to attend more tutorials?	• Going over past papers • The prospect of free and stimulating discussion • Going over additional material • More even mix of students - im the only girl in the group • Going through more of the complicated topics from lectures

Best features
- Small group (8)
- Quick feedback (4)
- Helpful (3)
- Working through the tutorial sheets (6)
- Aided understanding (5)
- Experienced tutor
- Open door policy
- MG - swift tutorials, only goes over what is necessary (2)
- DC - knowledgable and helpful
- Interesting discussions
- Feedback
- GL good tutor
- Clear explanations
- PG good tutor
- Friendly atmosphere (2)

Worst features
- Embarrassment at answering questions incorrectly
- Little positive feedback
- Runs over
- Tedious at times
- MG doesnt make full use of the time.(2)
- DC goes too fast
- Stilted discussion
- CC - disorganised
- Presentation weeks were not as useful as others
- Scheduling
- Tutorial too long
- Tutorial sheet only doable in the hour between Friday lectures and handing in
- Content very difficult
- Can go off topic
- KMD unapproachable
- PQ unable to deliver content in a simple way

CHEM10600 Practical Chemistry

Measurement Lab	Exp	Replies: 83 Average: 4.2
	Del/Equip	Replies: 83 Average: 4.3
	Demonst	Replies: 82 Average: 4.0
Synthesis lab	Exp	Replies: 82 Average: 4.1
	Del/Equip	Replies: 82 Average: 4.2
	Demonst	Replies: 82 Average: 4.0

Best features
- Wide range of experimental methods/experiments (2)
- Dave from MLAB was excellent demonstrator (4)
- MLAB handout
- Good intro to lab work (2)
- Variety of new chemicals
- MLAB experiments (3)
- Online theory
- Getting used to vital techniques (2)
- Demonstrators (7)
- Lab scripts (2)
- Good level of difficulty
- Practical skills
- SLAB
- SLAB experiments
- Getting to work in a real lab
- SLAB demonstrator

Worst features
- SLAB demonstrator Jack was very uninterested (2)
- SLAB handouts
- SLAB equipment
- SLAB experiments (2)
- SLAB feedback
- SLAB just like 'following a recipe'
- SLAB: 10 people in an 8-person bay (2)
- SLAB vacuum never works (4)
- MLAB feedback
- MLAB demonstrator unhelpful, did not understand what I was saying. (2)
- Demonstrator
- Rushed for time
- Crowded fume cupboards (2)
- Lab reports
- High chance of other people contaminating solutions and compounds you have to use e.g. Mo4
- SLAB reports; clear difference in demonstrator marking
- Demonstrators unresourceful
- Demonstrator in ½ weeks
- On some occasions, penalties for messy work areas have been applied to everyone which was unfair to those who tidied their areas.
- Descrepancy between demonstrators: unfair between lab groups. (2)
- Lab marks can depend on the individual demonstrator
- MLAB demonstrator level of English
- No feedback on any of my lab reports

PASS

How many sessions did you attend?	Replies: 77 All: 39.2% Most: 24.1% Half: 5.1% Few: 27.8% None: 3.8%
Pass Leaders	Replies: 77 Average: 3.7

Best features
- Helpful/useful (10)
- Not boring
- Really good (2)
- Talking in groups
- Stimulates discussion
- Approachable leaders (2)
- Learning/reinforcing of work in different ways (2)
- Comfortable sessions
- Leaders (3)
- Flexibility
- Fun
- Well led
- Good level of difficulty
- Helps with Maths
- Friendly leaders (3)
- Sociable

Worst features
- Unprepared content
- Occasionally lacks structure/direction (5)
- Food available as I dont have a lunch break that day
- Not always useful (2)
- Only one session a week enough
- Unreliable PASS leader
- PASS booklet has no page numbers
- PASS leaders didnt turn up one week
- Groups too small (3)
- Leaders didnt know what to do
- Not enough
- Irrelevant (2)

Feedback

Have you made use of the following feedback available to you? (please ring each one you have used)	attend tutorial 94.8%	tutorial work sheets 93.5%	office hours 2.6%	online tests 93.5%	workshops 80.5%	
Additional Comments	• Scheme of work so it is clear what topics to revise • An extra tutorial instead of PASS • Lecture capture in G.51 (2) • Chem10600: The appropriate glassware should be put away in drawers and any other glassware should be signed for in the presence of a demonstrator and returned at the end. This way, people wouldn't leave dirty/wet glassware around. • Maths lectures • Past papers and solutions (3) • More reminders for everything • Blackboard is badly laid out (2) • It would be nice to have a slightly more evenly spread week					
What additional feedback would you like to receive?	• More 1-1 tutorials • Why haven't we had more than 4 workshops this semester? • Many lecturers don't email back • Answers to workshops on BB (2) • Some markschemes easily available (5) • Reading lists that include radio, podcast, tv show etc recommendations. • Step by step workings of incorrect answers on online workshop questions etc (3) • More online tests and practise questions • More actual feedback replacing online feedback • MLAB feedback quicker					

Comments on Non-core Units

Best features:	• BMAN: online availability of lecture recordings/lecturer/guest lecturer • BIOL10551: Handouts(3)/online tests (5) /BB/nothing/interesting/some of the topics/range of methods/detailed lectures (2) (3)/Golovanoz/LM3/clear explanations/easy • MATH19641: very thorough (3) /good lecturer (2)/approachable lecturers/easy content/keep up maths skills • EART10111: Interesting content/3 smaller exams • LAWS10261: Workshops/Seminars (2) • PHYS10191: useful lectures/BB resources/interesting/detailed lectures notes/mp3 lecture recordings (2)/BB source available/enthusiastic lecturer
Worst features:	• BMAN: not enough explanation of key/new terms/Friday PM slot/historical elements shouldnt be covered/lecture content/too long • MATH19641: Boring lectures (2)/classroom very cramped/equipment/lecturer overcomplicated material (2)/2 hour lectures/heavy content/needs more examples in lectures (2)/difficult jump from A-Level • BIOL10551: Different lecturers every week = varied teaching (2)/lectures that drag/badly taught/too hard without a biology A-Level/majority of lectures consisted of powerpoint (2)/no text book (3)/content delivery/too much content for 10 credits (4)/undetailed feedback (2)/rushed content/lecture timings/LM4/lecture timing/online test material not covered in lectures • PHYS10191: no feedback on problem sheets for chemistry students/BB availability of materials/not much feedback available/examples are too hard • EART10111: Exam questions not always related to content/no practise papers/not enough feedback/needs tutorials • LAWS10261: lecturer hard to understand/unengaging lectures/notes/feel very unprepared for exams