**Course Schedule**

This syllabus is subject to change according to the needs of the class. Zoom link on Canvas.

Practicals are lab exams meaning you cannot speak to your classmates or TAs. Only data collected during the practical may be submitted. You can have notes that may or may not be collected when you leave.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Experiment</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/17-1/20</td>
<td>How to Do Well in This Course - Remote/Canvas (TA Training)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/23(^a)-1/27</td>
<td>Check In, Technique Boot Camp (TA Training) (Chinese New Year)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/30-2/3</td>
<td>Titration aka Dilution Lab</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/6-2/10</td>
<td>Titration Practical</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/13-2/17</td>
<td>Colligative Properties - Boiling</td>
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<td>2/20-2/24</td>
<td>Kinetics - Bath Fizzle (Group)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/27-3/3</td>
<td>No Lab (Lent Starts)</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/6-3/10</td>
<td>Kinetics – Dye (Holi)</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/13-3/17</td>
<td>No Class (Spring Break)</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/20(^b)-3/24</td>
<td>Ten Test Tube Mystery Part 1(^c) (Ramadan Starts)</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/27-3/31</td>
<td>Ten Test Tube Mystery Practical(^c) (Ramadan)</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/3-4/7</td>
<td>Equilibrium (Passover, Good Friday, Easter, Lent Ends, Ramadan)</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/10-4/14</td>
<td>Equilibrium Practical (Good Friday, Easter, Ramadan)</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/17-4/21</td>
<td>Technical Skills Check (Ramadan Ends)</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/24-4/28</td>
<td>Check out/Make up Tech Skills</td>
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\(^a\) – Last Day to Add/Drop is 1/26  
\(^b\) – Last Day to Drop with a W is 3/20  
\(^c\) – There is no prelab this week.

We've all got responsibilities outside of this course. It may be jobs, caretaking responsibilities, other courses, legal issues, or things I’ve never considered. I will do my best to be as reasonably accommodating as possible but that requires communication. I never ask for details but if something serious is happening, I can try to connect the resources to you instead of you having to find them on your own.
Hello!
I’m Dr. Sobers (Soh-burrs). Email: cj.sobers@rutgers.edu
You are assigned to a TA and a Head TA. You will meet them the first day but they may email you before then.

How to get in touch
FYI – When initially emailing instructors, the safest/most respectful option is Prof. [Last Name]. They will either state a preference or you can use how they sign off the email for future communications.
It’s important to me that you form a professional relationship with your TA and Head TA so they can personalize recommendations for your learning. They will involve me for any discussions around accommodations, grades, or falling behind. I will respond directly or indirectly (via Head TA or TA) to anything I receive before 1600 on weekdays. I am with my family 1600-1900 weekdays and 0700-1900 on weekends; I’m sleeping 2200-0600(ish). It is highly unlikely I will respond when I am with my family or asleep.

How do I get an A?
One of the goals of this course is to make you think about experimental design…and some chem calculations. So we’ll be using something called specifications grading. Specs grading allows for 2 things: 1 - you can decide what grade you want and work towards that using the grade tracker (link on Canvas) & 2 - you have a chance to revise your work in response to feedback. You also have tokens that can be used to improve an assignment grade, get an extension, etc. My hope is that this makes your grade in this course more transparent and you feel more in control of your learning and final grade in this course.

What should I be checking?
Chem21 is where you will submit your lab reports. You must purchase an access code (direct is cheaper but you can use fin aid through the bookstore).

Canvas is where revised announcements, and due dates will be submitted and posted. You will also submit your revised short answers and weekly reflections on Canvas. For now, you should check both websites at least once a week outside of lab.

Email. Everything goes to your ScarletMail. You are responsible for any information sent to you via email.

Anything Else?
● Being good/bad in lecture does not mean you will be good/bad in lab.
● There are over 250 students enrolled in this course. If you email me, please include your section and TA or Head TA’s name. I struggle to remember everyone.
● Emails will get lost/forgotten. Please wait at least 24h before following up.
● The TAs are students too. If you’re feeling overwhelmed, so are they. Please keep that in mind when contacting them.
● I don’t need an excuse, note, email, etc if you miss a lab period. If you miss content, meet up with your TA for a review.
Syllabus – The Full Version

Chem 114 – General Chemistry Lab II (21:160:114)

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey – Newark Campus

Spring 2023

About this syllabus: This syllabus contains facts and asides about my teaching philosophy. Anything highlighted in green relates to my stance on growth mindset, diversity/equity/inclusion, the importance of care from both students and instructor/TAs, and that we all exist outside of this class. I will make mistakes and I encourage criticism & feedback to make your experience more welcoming.

Instructor:
Dr. Courtney Sobers Swindell (please refer to me as Dr. Sobers, pronounced soh-burrs, she/her)
Contact Info: cj.sobers@rutgers.edu (include section or day/time in email) or via Canvas Mail
Student “Chat With Me” Hours: TBD and by appointment

Teaching Assistants (TAs): Hamza, Youssef, Conor, Vaishnavi, Minu, Yuzhuo, Oguz, Tiffany, Henry, Tianyue, Kevin, David, Maya, Imani, Mira, Ryan

I’m a first-generation American (family is from the West Indies). I have taught at community colleges, private universities, and public universities. I love teaching and studying teaching/learning. General chemistry, and lab especially, were, and still are, a struggle for me. I have to review the labs every week just like you.

Meeting Times:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>0830 – 1120</td>
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<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
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<td>03</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
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<tr>
<td>05</td>
<td>Friday</td>
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<tr>
<td>06</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>1300 – 1550</td>
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Required:
- Chem21Labs (chem21labs.com) – this does have an access fee. If this is an issue, please contact me so we can work something out. We use this to avoid technological issues, grading bias, and to be more respectful of everyone’s time.
- Canvas (canvas.rutgers.edu) – announcements will be posted here. Reflections & grade proposals are submitted here. (Getting Started w/ Canvas)
- Rutgers email – CHECK THIS REGULARLY
- Non-graphing calculator
- Writing utensil
- Picture taking device (smartphone, tablet, laptop w/ camera, etc)

NOTE: Lab is about mistakes and repeats, within reason, because that’s how you learn.

Course Description:
This is a companion course to General Chemistry II (21:160:116) for science majors and involves extensive use of personalized computer moderated labs. The emphasis of the course is on some technical skills: experimental
design, data analysis and processing (calculations, graphing, identifying experimental error, etc.); and relational skills: time management, communication, and preparation. Some of these labs are tough and can’t be done on the fly. Take 30 minutes to review the prelab, lab procedure, and the questions in the lab prior to doing the experiment so you aren’t surprised. You are going to be asked to reflect on your learning for each lab (except the Intro lab) to make sure you are getting something out of the course.

Grading:
Interpreting chemistry is a skill and there are resources, not limited to your TA, available to help you with everything from how to prepare for lab to understanding the best way to answer questions.

If my goal is to have you learn, points get in the way of that happening. It also makes our interactions adversarial instead of supportive/encouraging.

This course uses specifications grading. Your grade will be determined as outlined in the grade tracker. Your grade is the one where ALL conditions are met. You can also earn tokens during the semester that can be used to get an extension or change an assignment grade. Please see the token trade-in document (link on Canvas) for details. You can find more information about the benefits of specs grading here, here, here, here, and here.

NOTE: Grade options are A, B+, B, C+, C, F. There is no D.

Experiment Announcements:
There will be weekly announcements posted to Canvas and forwarded to your Rutgers email address. These announcements may contain information about the experiments, the course, or any other information the TAs or instructor think you should be aware of. You are responsible for reading all announcements and being familiar with the content.

You, along with your TA Cohort, will decide the form and frequency of communication from your TA. You will be inundated with messages from all your courses. I recommend that you put due dates in your calendar and decide on a work plan. This is part of the first day.

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When you have a question outside of class . . .
- check syllabus
- check announcements
- check email
- ask a classmate
- ask your professor!

Late/Missed labs:
Due dates exist to help TAs & myself manage our workload. Labs are due 24 hours after the end of your lab session. Feedback on late submissions is not guaranteed. You may need to attend a student hour to get that feedback.
We’re all in this pandemic and being overloaded emotionally, mentally, and academically. If you find yourself disappointed with your feedback, please reach out to the TA, Head TA, or myself so we can try to help you figure out a way to perform at the level you expect.

Several missed submissions usually mean there’s something bigger happening. I will connect you with the CARE team and you will be encouraged to contact your advisor or the Dean of Students for assistance.

Lab Safety:
It is very easy to injure yourself or others during lab. You must wear proper personal protective equipment (PPE) at all times during lab. This means long sleeves or lab coat with long sleeves, covered midriffs, closed toe and heel shoes (Crocs with the holes in the top are not acceptable), long pants/skirt/something that covers your legs, and any hair shoulder length or longer needs to be securely pulled back (that droopy bun is not it). This is the MOST important thing to me. If you aren’t comfortable doing something, let your TA know ASAP so we can come up with an alternative.

Advice/FYIs

- Do the prelabs. Ask the TAs for help.
- When you do the prelab, write out your calculations in detail and then write out why you did what you did. I find that when faced with new problems, seeing my logic progression along with the work makes it easier to figure out.
- Do your own work. If you are caught violating the academic integrity policy, the penalty can drop you a letter grade in the course & result in a note on your transcript.
- **The TAs are not there to read the procedure to you or tell you what to do. I expect everyone to do things in their own way, not just mimic the TA.** This class is about exploring chemistry, so lean into mistakes.
- Speak up. If you have a bad interaction with your TA, bring it to the instructor’s attention. Please do not wait until the end of the course. This also applies to technological issues.
- At most, grades are a marker of your level of understanding at this point in time. Your midterm proposed grade is just a benchmark.
- Use your classmates and discuss the labs. Discussion and defense of ideas is where learning happens.
Academic Integrity:
As an academic community dedicated to the creation, dissemination, and application of knowledge, Rutgers University is committed to fostering an intellectual and ethical environment based on the principles of academic integrity. Academic integrity is essential to the success of the University’s educational and research missions, and violations of academic integrity constitute serious offenses against the entire academic community. The entire Academic Integrity Policy can be found here:

http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-policy/

Some labs will be done as a group. All submitted work should be done independently by the student and each student should submit their own lab including, but not limited to, data and uploaded content. Submitting identical data to another student (unless working in partners/groups) or submitting data for a lab you did not complete is a violation of the academic integrity policy. You may not submit prelab data as experimental data. You can reference AI technology but your submissions should be your work not AI generated. A violation negates the ungrading policy and will result in a drop after we agree on a letter grade. Academic integrity, as defined by the University Code of Student Conduct, requires that students:

1) Make sure that all work submitted as his or her own in a course or other academic activity is produced without the aid of unsanctioned materials or unsanctioned collaboration.
2) Obtain all data or results by ethical means and report them accurately without suppressing any results inconsistent with his or her interpretation or conclusions
3) Treat all other students in an ethical manner, respecting their integrity and right to pursue their educational goals without interference. This requires that a student neither facilitate academic dishonesty by others nor obstruct their academic progress.

Any academic integrity violations will result in a failing grade for the assignment/work on which the violation occurred that cannot be dropped when calculating the final course grade. Additional violations will result in a failing grade for the course. All violations will be reported to the Academic Integrity Facilitators/Academic Integrity Office.

You are more than capable of completing the work in this course and doing well. If you find yourself deciding whether or not to submit someone else’s work, please reach out to myself or the TA so we can try to work with your circumstances to avoid such an incident.
Accommodation and Support Statement
Rutgers University Newark (RU-N) is committed to the creation of an inclusive and safe learning environment for all students and the University as a whole. Accommodations do not compromise the academic integrity of the course and are a tool of equity and inclusion in a field that struggles with that. RU-N has identified the following resources to further the mission of access and support:

Disabilities:
The Office of Disability Services (ODS) is responsible for the determination of appropriate accommodations for students who encounter barriers due to disability, some of which are invisible (mental health, learning disabilities, etc.). The Letter of Accommodations must be given to each course instructor by the student and followed up with a discussion. Accommodations are not retroactive.
Website: ods.rutgers.edu
Phone: (973)353-5375
Email: ods@newark.rutgers.edu

Pregnancy:
The Office of Title IX and ADA Compliance is available to assist with any concerns or potential accommodations related to pregnancy.
Phone: (973) 353-1906
Email: TitleIX@newark.rutgers.edu

Absence Verification:
The Office of the Dean of Students can provide assistance for absences related to religious observance, emergency or unavoidable conflict (e.g., illness, personal or family emergency, etc.). Students should refer to University Policy 10.2.7 for information about expectations and responsibilities.
Phone: (973) 353-5063
Email: deanofstudents@newark.rutgers.edu

Temporary conditions/injuries:
The Office of the Dean of Students can assist students who are experiencing a temporary condition or injury (e.g., broken or sprained limbs, concussions, or recovery from surgery).
Website: https://temporaryconditions.rutgers.edu

English as a Second Language (ESL):
The Program in American Language Studies (PALS) can support students experiencing difficulty in courses due to English as a Second Language (ESL)
Email: PALS@newark.rutgers.edu

Gender or Sex-Based Discrimination or Harassment:
The Office of Title IX and ADA Compliance can assist students who are experiencing any form of gender or sex-based discrimination or harassment, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, relationship violence, or stalking.
Reporting: tinyurl.com/RUNReportingForm.

Interpersonal violence:
The Office for Violence Prevention and Victim Assistance can provide any student with confidential support. The office is a confidential resource and does not have an obligation to report information to the University’s Title IX Coordinator.
Phone: (973) 353-1918
Text: (973) 339-0734
Email: run.vpva@rutgers.edu

Crisis and Concerns:
The Campus Awareness Response and Education (CARE) Team works with students in crisis to develop a support plan to address personal situations that might impact their academic performance.
Website: tinyurl.com/RUNCARE
Email: careteam@rutgers.edu

Stress, Worry, or Concerns about Well-being:
The Counseling Center has confidential therapists available to support students.
Email: counseling@newark.rutgers.edu or (973) 353-5805. If you are not quite ready to make an appointment with a therapist but are interested in self-help, check out *TAO at Rutgers-Newark* for an easy, web-based approach to self-care and support: https://tinyurl.com/RUN-TAO.

**Emergency Aid Funds**
If you run into unexpected, sudden hardship, you may be eligible for an emergency grant from the University to cover expenses etc.
Website: https://studentaffairs.rutgers.edu/support-students/donate-to-student-affairs/emergency-assistance

**pantryRUN**
Website: https://myrun.newark.rutgers.edu/node/226
Email: pantry_run@newark.rutgers.edu
Phone: (973) 353-5231

**Learning Resources**

**Rutgers Learning Center (tutoring services)**
(973) 353-5608
https://sasn.rutgers.edu/student-support/tutoring-academic-support/learning-center

**Writing Center (tutoring and writing workshops)**
(973) 353-5847
nwc@rutgers.edu
https://sasn.rutgers.edu/student-support/tutoring-academic-support/writing-center