

School of Chemistry – Unit Feedback 16/17

<b>Unit title: Case Stds in Exp Phys Chem</b>		
<b>Unit code: CHEM40232</b>		
Unit co-ordinator: Cinzia Casiraghi		
Other teaching staff: Alex Baidak, Steve Yeates, Andrew Harrison		
Response Rate:	10/44 (22.73%)	
<b>Questions</b>	<b>Mean score</b>	<b>Previous Year</b>
Overall, I would rate this unit as being excellent	<b>3.8</b>	3.73
The feedback that I received on my work was helpful	<b>3.4</b>	3.27
This unit was well organised	<b>4.1</b>	3.82
The eLearning resources provided in this unit enhanced my learning experience	<b>3.6</b>	3.55
<p><b><i>Please summarise the main themes from students' comments:</i></b></p> <p>Answer rate is relatively small (~23%). In general they enjoyed the lectures and appreciated the wide range of topics covered. Students found the content of the unit both useful and interesting. However, the students would like a reduction in the content, and at the same time more support in place, such as a workshop (which was done only by SGY) or tutorials worksheet with answers. One student also mentioned about better communication between lecturers to avoid overlap – It is not clear to what he/she refers as the topics are very different. SGY either liked or disliked some saying good handouts others not. AH new lectures were well received.</p>		
<p><b><i>Please provide feedback to students comments:</i></b></p> <p>SGY –change in the handouts: will go from more discursive style to more formalised style. SGY will rewrite content (if still doing) focusing more on chemistry and less on engineering principles</p> <p>All: more support/feedback available (note: this year feedback was available, but few students made use of it, so we expect better participation from the students too)</p>		

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<b>Unit title: Advanced Magnetic Resonance</b>		
<b>Unit code: CHEM40252</b>		
Unit co-ordinator: Mathias Nilsson		
Other teaching staff: David Collison, Alistair Fielding, Mike Anderson, Alistair Fielding, Alex Jones, Gareth Morris		
Response Rate:	4/16 (25%)	
<b>General University Questions</b>	<b>Mean score</b>	<b>Previous Year</b>
Overall, I would rate this unit as being excellent	<b>4.75</b>	4.67
The feedback that I received on my work was helpful	<b>4.5</b>	4
This unit was well organised	<b>4.75</b>	4
The eLearning resources provided in this unit enhanced my learning experience	<b>4.25</b>	4.3
<b><i>Please summarise the main themes from students' comments:</i></b>		
Students appear very happy with the course. One lecturer received significantly lower scores than the others and compared to their own scores from previous year, but even so the average scores are up from last year		
<b><i>Please provide feedback to students comments:</i></b>		
We are happy that the students find the course of high quality. Change of course structure with fewer modules is taken into consideration.		

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<b>Unit title: Biophysical Chemistry</b>		
<b>Unit code: CHEM40262</b>		
Unit co-ordinator: Perdita Barran		
Other teaching staff: Nick Lockyer, Roy Goodacre, Robin Pritchard, Richard Henschman		
Response Rate: 4/31 (12.9%)		
<b>General University Questions</b>	<b>Mean score</b>	<b>Previous Year</b>
Overall, I would rate this unit as being excellent	<b>2.5</b>	3.50
The feedback that I received on my work was helpful	<b>2.75</b>	2.75
This unit was well organised	<b>3.25</b>	3.00
The eLearning resources provided in this unit enhanced my learning experience	<b>3</b>	3.50
<b><i>Please summarise the main themes from students' comments:</i></b>		
One comment suggesting fewer topics in the course		
<i>The unit team felt that there were insufficient responses to comment.</i>		

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<b>Unit title: Topics in Inorganic Chemistry</b>		
<b>Unit code: CHEM40322</b>		
Unit co-ordinator: Alan Brisdon		
Other teaching staff: Mike Ingleson, Nick Chilton, Nik Kaltsoyannis		
Response Rate:	13/86 (15.12%)	
<b>General University Questions</b>	<b>Mean score</b>	<b>Previous Year</b>
Overall, I would rate this unit as being excellent	<b>4.38</b>	4.15
The feedback that I received on my work was helpful	<b>4.08</b>	3.92
This unit was well organised	<b>4.69</b>	4.46
The eLearning resources provided in this unit enhanced my learning experience	<b>4.15</b>	4.15
<b><i>Please summarise the main themes from students' comments:</i></b>		
<p>Overall extremely positive scores and comments received, albeit from a small number of responses. The low response rate may reflect the general contentment amongst the students, since if there was a major problem not only would the scores would be lower, and I am sure that we would have a large number of responses mentioning it. The variety of content, range of topics and their delivery was all highlighted. The provision of a workshop for each topic was considered very useful. Different aspects of each lecturer's style/delivery were positively commented upon. The only negative comments concerned the amount of material covered in the 2<sup>nd</sup> topic.</p>		
<b><i>Please provide feedback to students comments:</i></b>		
<p>The feedback received was almost uniformly very good, and scores improved (or in one category remained the same) in all areas – however only a relatively small number of students (15%) responded, so we cannot be sure that the comments made are truly representative. Please do fill in the questionnaire even if you are satisfied.</p> <p>The only suggestions for improvement were a reduction in content for the 2<sup>nd</sup> topic and improvements to be made in the aesthetics of slides for section 1. Both of these points will be borne in mind before delivery next year. It is, however, worth noting that for the 2<sup>nd</sup> topic, much of the material is different examples exemplifying the same core chemical principles. Indeed there are only 14 ILOs across the 6 lectures of this topic, and it is these that need to be recalled, rather than the specific examples.</p>		

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<b>Unit title: Molecular Interactions</b>		
<b>Unit code: CHEM40422</b>		
Unit co-ordinator: Anthony Green		
Other teaching staff: Jordi Bures, Guillaume De Bo		
Response Rate: 7/74 (9.46%)		
<b>General University Questions</b>	<b>Mean score</b>	<b>Previous Year</b>
Overall, I would rate this unit as being excellent	<b>3.29</b>	3.64
The feedback that I received on my work was helpful	<b>3.29</b>	3.36
This unit was well organised	<b>4.14</b>	3.82
The eLearning resources provided in this unit enhanced my learning experience	<b>3.14</b>	4
<p><b><i>Please summarise the main themes from students' comments:</i></b></p> <p>The response rate is low (9.46%) despite both email and in class reminders to complete the course survey. Such a low turnout makes it difficult to accurately judge the overall satisfaction of the course.</p> <p>Both the content and delivery of all three sections of the course received satisfactory feedback and the course was considered to be well organized.</p> <p>There was a request to provide additional sample questions. Being a new course there may be fewer questions available than the students' are accustomed to – however next year additional mock questions will become available (providing the course content remains unchanged).</p> <p>One comment suggested that there was too much content in GDB lecture course.</p> <p>There was a request for additional workshops or feedback.</p> <p>There was a comment stating that it is 'very vague how this topic is assessed'. It is not clear whether this refers to the whole course or a particular unit.</p>		
<p><b><i>Please provide feedback to students comments:</i></b></p> <p>There will be additional sample questions provided for next year's course.</p> <p>There are currently three one hour revision workshops (one for each eight lecture subunit). These workshops will be maintained for the next academic year.</p> <p>Dr De Bo will review his course content and rebalance various aspects of his course to reduce content where necessary.</p> <p>The method of assessment will be clearly highlighted by each of the three sub-unit leaders at the beginning of their respective lecture courses.</p> <p>We will review and update the eLearning resources for this course in time for the next academic year.</p>		

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<b>Unit title: Advanced Bioorganic Chemistry</b>		
<b>Unit code: CHEM41412</b>		
Unit co-ordinator: Roger Whitehead		
Other teaching staff: Jason Micklefield, Nick Turner		
Response Rate: 7/43 (16.28%)		
<b>General University Questions</b>	<b>Mean score</b>	<b>Previous Year</b>
Overall, I would rate this unit as being excellent	<b>4.29</b>	4.83
The feedback that I received on my work was helpful	<b>3.86</b>	4.33
This unit was well organised	<b>4.14</b>	5
The eLearning resources provided in this unit enhanced my learning experience	<b>3.71</b>	5
<b><i>Please summarise the main themes from students' comments:</i></b>		
<p>For the most part, the responses were positive and indicate the course was delivered well, the material engaged the students and the content was viewed as being very interesting. There were some concerns about the organisation of the first section of the course: these have been noted, however an alternative lecturer will give this section of the course next year. The eLearning resources provided were essentially identical to last year but there is a substantially different score for this aspect – this may, in part, reflect the low response rate (16%). There is also a reduced score for feedback, however there was more opportunity for this: RCW offered an open office hour each week for specific individual feedback but this wasn't taken up by any of the students.</p>		
<b><i>Please provide feedback to students comments:</i></b>		
<p>Comments regarding the organisation of the first section of the course have been noted: due to sabbatical arrangements this lecture block will be delivered by a different member of staff in 2018. In 2017, opportunity for individual feedback was provided by Dr Whitehead, via an open office hour each week, however this was not taken up by any students. All contributing lecturers will be encouraged to offer the same in 2018 and students will be similarly encouraged to take advantage of this arrangement.</p>		

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<b>Unit title: MChem Yr4 Project Report</b>		
<b>Unit code: CHEM41600</b>		
Unit co-ordinator: Richard Layfield		
Response Rate:	21/125 (16.8%)	
<b>General University Questions</b>	<b>Mean score</b>	<b>Previous Year</b>
Overall, I would rate this unit as being excellent	<b>4.14</b>	4.05
The feedback that I received on my work was helpful	<b>3.81</b>	3.75
This unit was well organised	<b>3.71</b>	3.9
The eLearning resources provided in this unit enhanced my learning experience	<b>3.14</b>	3.5
<p><b><i>Please summarise the main themes from students' comments:</i></b></p> <p>The general theme seems to be that student experiences are similar to last year, which can either be interpreted as consistency or that we haven't improved on the previous year. Clearly there is a need to improve feedback, or highlight that the feedback is indeed feedback. There are very few eLearning resources to go with this course, so I wonder if that particular question is even relevant. Can the students provide some suggestions as to which eLearning resources might be useful?</p>		
<p><b><i>Please provide feedback to students comments:</i></b></p> <p>The main mechanism for feedback to students is via direct interactions with project supervisors and anyone involved in day-to-day supervision of projects.</p> <p>We will continue to emphasize to supervisors that meaningful feedback is given to students and that it happens in a timely manner.</p> <p>The different nature of the projects means that very little in the way of e-learning resources is available or, indeed, necessary. Any suggestions that the students wish to make for e-learning resources would be very welcome.</p>		