

CHEMISTRY

AT ADVANCED LEVEL (A/S AND A2)

Our Course: AQA, Specification

Summary of Subject Content

Chemists have greatly improved the quality of life for the majority of people. The new AQA specification is underpinned by recognition of 'How Science Works', to show Chemists as innovators, designing solutions to the problems that affect modern life. The new course is designed to build on the Chemistry taught at GCSE.

First Year:

- AS: Unit 1: Foundation Chemistry**
Assessment: 16½% 1 hour 15 minutes examination
4-6 short answer questions and 1-2 longer structured questions
Available in January and June
- Unit 2: Chemistry in Action**
Assessment: 23% of total 1 hour 45 minutes examination
6-8 short answer questions and 2 longer structured questions
Available in June
- Unit 3: Investigative and Practical Skills - Internal Assessment**
Assessment of practical skills and an investigative assessment
set by AQA 10%

Second Year :

- A2: Unit 4: Kinetics, Equilibria and Organic Chemistry**
Assessment: 20% 1 hour 45 minutes examination
6-8 short answer questions and 1-2 longer structured questions
Available in January and June.
- Unit 5: Energetics, Redox and Inorganic Chemistry**
Assessment: 20% 1 hour 45 minutes examination
5-7 short answer questions and 2-3 longer structured questions
Available in June.
- Unit 6: Investigative and Practical Skills - Internal Assessment**
Assessment of practical skills and an investigative assessment
set by AQA 10%

Aptitudes, skills or qualities you will need:-

This GCE Chemistry specification builds on the knowledge, understanding and skills set out in the National Curriculum Key Stage 4 programme of study for Additional Science. It assumes that candidates following AS/Advanced Level courses have achieved Grade A or better in GCSE Additional Science.

Value of the subject for higher education and future careers:-

A pass grade in A-Level Chemistry is highly valued by both Higher Education and employers alike. Most science based courses require Chemistry as a backbone; the subject is vital to back up Biological Sciences and hence it is essential if any medical course is envisaged.