

Text Book Options

Some students try to get through CHEM 141 without a textbook. That may be possible, but it is probably not advisable. Textbooks are often helpful in clearing up misunderstandings, showing step-by-step solutions to example problems, and providing a whole range of problems to help students fully grasp the material. Many students find that chemistry lectures are not so difficult to understand when they have looked at the corresponding material in the textbook before coming to class. Furthermore textbooks have a wealth of reference material that is not always so readily available from other sources. Also reading scientific textbooks is very helpful preparation for the reading comprehension sections of such tests as PCAT and MCAT.

So any textbook is better than none at all. Old Textbooks, including earlier editions, are useful for this course. Material does not change much from year to year. Newer books update material to reflect recent developments in science, technology and society, but the basic concepts of chemistry are unchanged. Some texts present concepts and solve problems in different ways. Many textbooks present the material in a different order within chapters and maybe even have a different chapter order.

The Tentative Course Outline for this course will be specific only to the recommended textbook, which is Chemistry: The Molecular Nature of Matter and Change, 7th Ed., by Silberberg. Volume 1, which is available in the College book store, has the first 11 chapters, which is all the material necessary for this class. Both the full version and Volume 1 have an access code for ConnectPlus and access to the full on-line version of the text. International versions (usually paperback editions) of this text have the same material as readily available hardback copies, but will not have ConnectPlus or on-line access. ConnectPlus can be purchased from the bookstore or directly on line.

The later chapters in the full volume will be useful for CHEM 142. Next semester a Volume 2 containing just the later chapters will be available for CHEM 142 students.

ConnectPlus is **not** required for this course. It has LearnSmart exercises to help students learn the material and it can have instructor assigned practice problems with built-in tutorial help.

Also there are ways to purchase an on-line text book for about half the cost of a printed hardback version.

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www.textbooks.vitalsource.com There is a Kindle Version.

There are many online sites that **rent** textbooks. [Amazon.com rents the 6th Ed. For under \$40.]

Schaum's Outline of College Chemistry by Rosenberg, Epstein (and Krieger) [any edition] for less than \$20.00 has good coverage of college general chemistry. It may useful to those who do not care to pay the cost of a traditional textbook. It is does not have colored diagrams and information to keep it up to date with recent scientific and technological developments. But it does explain concepts and demonstrate the various problem solving methods used in hundreds of chemistry problems.