CHEMICAL ENGINEERING (CHE)

CHE 97: Special Topics
1-9 Credits/Maximum of 9

Formal courses given infrequently to explore, in depth, a comparatively narrow subject which may be topical or of special interest.

CHE 100: Exploring Chemical Engineering First-Year Seminar
1 Credits

The exploration of Chemical Engineering and available career opportunities.

First-Year Seminar

CHE 199: Foreign Studies
1-12 Credits/Maximum of 12

Courses offered in foreign countries by individual or group instruction.

International Cultures (IL)

CHE 210: Introduction to Material Balances
3 Credits

An integrated approach to the study of material balances and industrial chemical processes important in chemical engineering. CHE 210 Introduction to Material Balances (3) The objective of this course is to present an introduction to chemical engineering calculations, establish mathematical methodologies for the computation of material balances and to present an overview of industrial chemical processes. It is the introductory course in the chemical engineering curriculum and is normally taken in the sophomore year. It is prerequisite for several junior-level courses in the curriculum, including courses in process fluid dynamics, heat transfer and phase equilibrium. The course reviews the fundamentals of chemistry and physics as they pertain to chemical problems and applies mathematics to the development of time-dependent equations to describe materials flow through a process. Examples of the processes studied include stoichiometry in combustion and other reactions, material flow with recycle streams, humidification and drying process, and the analysis of non-steady systems. The Honors version of the course places emphasis on the use of computational methods in the solution of chemical engineering problems through the use of advanced mathematical packages.

Prerequisite: MATH 251

Honors

CHE 220: Introduction to Chemical Engineering Thermodynamics
3 Credits

Chemical process applications of energy balances, equations of state, thermodynamic properties of real fluids, second law of thermodynamics, cycles. CHE 220H Introduction to Chemical Engineering Thermodynamics (Honors) (3) This course is the introductory course in chemical engineering thermodynamics. It is normally scheduled in the sophomore year and is continued by a second course which covers the thermodynamics of phase transformations and chemical reactions. The emphasis of this course is in the development of the theory of thermodynamics and its application to pure substances. The theory is applied on the thermodynamic analysis of small- and large-scale processes with multiple streams and energy exchanges, how to compute heat and work loads, and how to assess the efficiency of the process with respect to energy utilization. Starting from small units, such as pumps, compressors, turbines, and heat exchangers, examples grow to include large systems such as power plants and refrigeration cycles, that may involve many interconnecting units and recycle streams. A parallel focus of the course is in the computation of thermodynamic properties through the use of charts, tables, and equations of state with emphasis on non-ideal systems.

Prerequisite: MATH 231

CHE 220H: Introduction to Chemical Engineering Thermodynamics (Honors)
3 Credits

Chemical process applications of energy balances, equations of state, thermodynamic properties of real fluids, second law of thermodynamics, cycles. CHE 220H CHE 220H Introduction to Chemical Engineering Thermodynamics (Honors) (3) CHE 220H is the introductory course in chemical engineering thermodynamics. The emphasis of this course is in the development of the theory of thermodynamics and its application to pure substances. The theory is applied on the thermodynamics analysis of small- and large-scale processes in closed and open systems. Students learn how to formulate the energy balance for a process with multiple streams and energy exchanges, how to compute heat and work loads, from small units, such as pumps, compressors, turbines, and heat exchangers, examples grow to larger systems such as power plants and refrigeration cycles, that may involve many interconnecting units and recycle streams. The Honors version of the course places special emphasis on (a) the connection between thermodynamics and molecular properties and (b) on the use of computational methods for the calculation of thermodynamic properties under non-ideal conditions.

Prerequisite: MATH 231

Honors
CHE 230: Computational Tools for Chemical Engineering

1 Credits

This 1-credit course will cover the key computational tools needed by Chemical Engineering students. CH E 230 Computational Tools for Chemical Engineering (1) This 1-credit course will cover the key computational tools needed by Chemical Engineering students. Specific topics of interest include: constructing high quality graphs, statistics and linear regression, solving coupled algebraic equations, solving ordinary and partial differential equations, and matrices.

Prerequisite: MATH 251

CHE 294: Research Project

1-12 Credits/Maximum of 12

Supervised off-campus, nongroup instruction including field experiences, practica, or internships. Written and oral critique of activity required.

CHE 296: Independent Studies

1-18 Credits/Maximum of 18

Creative projects, including research and design, that are supervised on an individual basis and that fall outside the scope of formal courses.

CHE 296H: Individual Studies

1-18 Credits/Maximum of 18

Creative projects, including research and design, that are supervised on an individual basis and that fall outside the scope of formal courses.

Honors

CHE 297: Special Topics

1-9 Credits/Maximum of 9

Formal courses given infrequently to explore, in depth, a comparatively narrow subject which may be topical or of special interest.

CHE 299: Foreign Studies

1-12 Credits/Maximum of 12

Courses offered in foreign countries by individual or group instruction.

International Cultures (IL)

CHE 300: Professional Development Seminar

1 Credits

Lectures and discussion by visiting engineers and faculty on chemical engineering, job selection, patents, licensing, ethics, and other professional problems. CH E 300 Professional Development Seminar (1) The course objective is to offer an orientation to the chemical engineering profession and to promote professional attributes such as professional ethics, lifelong learning, and awareness of environmental and societal factors and to highlight their importance in the career lives of chemical engineers. The course consists of a one-hour lecture each week by visiting speakers and Penn State faculty. For some lectures, reading material is distributed a week before the lecture and in some cases, the students must turn in the questionnaire in which they have to answer various questions related to the topic of that week. The topics vary from year to year, but several key topics are included each time the course is taught: ethics, environmental issues, process safety, patent law and intellectual property, graduate school, and job opportunities in various industries.

Prerequisite: fifth-semester standing

CHE 320: Phase and Chemical Equilibria

3 Credits

Pure component phase properties, solution properties, equilibria among phases, equilibrium stage separations, chemical reaction equilibria. CH E 320 Phase and Chemical Equilibria (3) The course covers the fundamentals of phase and chemical equilibrium with emphasis on vapor/liquid systems and their applications to separation processes. It is the second course in chemical engineering thermodynamics and leads to the study of separations and reacting systems. Computational methodologies are presented for the calculation of the properties of mixtures and the construction of phase diagrams (P-x-y, T-x-y) using activity coefficients or equations of state. The theory is applied to the analysis of equilibrium stage separation such as distillation and extraction including the construction of McCabe-Thiele diagrams. In the last portion of the course the principles of equilibrium are further applied to chemically reacting systems.

Prerequisite: CH E 210 with minimum grade of C, CH E 220 with minimum grade of C

CHE 330: Process Fluid Mechanics

3 Credits

An integrated study of the fundamentals and the quantitative design techniques involving flow of fluids in chemical processes. CH E 330 Process Fluid Mechanics (3) This course introduces the principles of fluid mechanics that are of fundamental importance to chemical engineers. The list of topics discussed in this course include the mechanical principles governing fluid flow, stress in a fluid, conservation of mass and momentum, using differential and integral balances, elementary constitutive equations, hydrostatics, exact solutions of the Navier-Stokes equations, approximate solutions using control volume analysis, mechanical energy balances and Bernoulli’s equation, dimensional analysis and dynamic similarity, and introduction to boundary-layer theory and turbulence.

Prerequisite: CH E 210 with a minimum grade of C

CHE 330H: Process Fluid Mechanics (Honors)

3 Credits

An integrated study of the fundamentals and the quantitative design techniques involving flow of fluids in chemical processes. CH E 330H Process Fluid Mechanics (3) This course introduces the principles of fluid mechanics that are of fundamental importance to chemical engineers. The list of topics discussed in this course include the mechanical principles governing fluid flow, stress in a fluid, conservation of mass and momentum, using differential and integral balances, elementary constitutive equations, hydrostatics, exact solutions of the Navier-Stokes equations, approximate solutions using control volume analysis, mechanical energy balances and Bernoulli’s equation, dimensional analysis and dynamic similarity, and introduction to boundary-layer theory and turbulence.
Courses offered in foreign countries by individual or group instruction.

1-12 Credits/Maximum of 12

CHE 399: Foreign Studies
Prerequisite: chemical reactors and mass transfer processes. This course is used in subsequent courses on the analysis and design of state, stability and controllability are introduced. The tools discussed in simulations are emphasized. In the latter area, the notions of steady-states are presented. A mathematical package that forms the basis for computer simulations is emphasized. In the latter area, the notions of steady-state, stability and controllability are introduced. The tools discussed in this course are used in subsequent courses on the analysis and design of reactors, separation processes, and heat transfer in simple systems, and design heat exchangers and simple heat exchanger networks. The development of the material of this course requires use of thermodynamics and fluid mechanics, scheduled earlier in the curriculum, and sets the basis for the design of reactors and separation processes, which are covered in subsequent courses.

Prerequisite: CHE 210 with minimum grade of C

CHE 350: Process Heat Transfer
Prerequisite: CHE 210 with C or better, B M B251, CHEM 212
3 Credits

An integrated study of the fundamentals and the quantitative design techniques involving heat transfer in chemical processes. CHE 350 Process Heat Transfer (3) The objective of the course is to introduce to students heat transfer mechanisms in solids and fluids and their chemical process applications. At the conclusion of the course, the student should possess the ability to model steady and unsteady heat transfer in simple systems, and design heat exchangers and simple heat exchanger networks. The development of the material of this course requires use of thermodynamics and fluid mechanics, scheduled earlier in the curriculum, and sets the basis for the design of reactors and separation processes, which are covered in subsequent courses.

Prerequisite: CHE 210 with minimum grade of C

CHE 360: Mathematical Modeling in Chemical Engineering
Prerequisite: CHE 210, CHE 220, CHE 320, CHE 330
3 Credits

Mathematical model formulation for chemical and physical processes, including applications of ordinary differential equations and numerical methods. CHE 360 Mathematical Modeling in Chemical Engineering (3) This course covers the applied mathematical techniques necessary for the simulation of physical and chemical processes such as mass transfer and reacting systems, and the analysis of process dynamics. In the former area, the formulation of ordinary differential equations for a variety of situations of interest to chemical engineers is considered. Numerical methods and mathematical packages that form the basis for computer simulations are emphasized. In the latter area, the notions of steady-state, stability and controllability are introduced. The tools discussed in this course are used in subsequent courses on the analysis and design of chemical reactors and mass transfer processes.

Prerequisite: CHE 210 with minimum grade of C, MATH 230, MATH 251

CHE 399: Foreign Studies
3-12 Credits/Maximum of 12

Courses offered in foreign countries by individual or group instruction.
CHE 443: Introduction to Polymer Science

3 Credits

Introduction to synthesis, structure, characterization and processing of polymers. Single molecule properties, polymer solutions, glasses, crystals and blends. CH E 443 Introduction to Polymer Science (3) The objective of this course is to introduce students to the synthesis, structure, characterization and processing of polymers. Emphasis is placed on the molecular origins of polymer properties. The course will provide an overview of single molecule properties and polymeric solutions, glasses, crystals and mixtures from a Chemical Engineering perspective. The course builds on CH E 320, Chemical and Phase Equilibria, to develop a more in-depth description of the thermodynamics of polymers. This course will also build on CHEM 210, Organic Chemistry, to analyze more in-depth strategies for the synthesis of polymers. At the end of the course, the students will be able to evaluate the viability of synthetic pathways for various polymers, estimate the size of polymer chains in solution and in the melt, calculate thermodynamics phase diagrams of polymer blends and solutions, and compare and contrast different approaches to describe the physical properties of polymers.

Prerequisite: CH E 320 and CHEM 210

CHE 444: Chemical Game Theory

3 Credits

Chemical Game Theory’ (CGT), uses well-known, rigorous principles from Chemistry and Chemical Engineering to solve strategic decision problems that could be analyzed using Traditional Game Theory (TGT). In strategic decisions, players each can choose from among two or more alternative possibilities, and the outcome depends upon the collective choices from all players. In this course we will analyze some of the premises of TGT as compared with CGT. In CGT, the players’ choices are treated as metaphorical molecules, and outcomes are calculated according to chemical reaction methods. The important concept of entropic choices is introduced, and pre-bias effects are included naturally as initial concentrations of reactants. CGT is not a generalization of TGT; rather, it represents contested decision problems differently, and gives different solutions. In this article we use the formalism of Chemistry to provide a ‘knowlecular approach’ to analyzing contested decisions. This approach has a rich capacity to represent decision-making scenarios and serve as a decision-making algorithm for contested decisions, where leadership power plays an important role.

Prerequisite: CHE 210, CHE 320

CHE 445: Bioremediation/Green Chemistry

3 Credits

Man has polluted his environment but biotechnology holds great promise for cleansing it and for synthesizing the chemicals that we all need in a modern society in a manner that limits generating new pollution. The course focuses on the application of biological and engineering principles toward the remediation of hazardous wastes and for the synthesis of chemicals in a sustainable manner; i.e., in a manner that limits the production of unwanted compounds. The tools that will be explained for accomplishing this are metabolic engineering, systems biology, and protein engineering. Students will also gain knowledge related to the design of biological contacting devices for waste remediation.
and green chemistry. Emphasis will also be placed on the evolution of bacterial pathways for accomplishing engineering goals. Discussion will also ensue on societal issues such as the wisdom of the release of genetically-engineered microorganisms and the limitations of biotechnological approaches.

**Prerequisite:** CHE 340

CHE 446: Transport Phenomena

3 Credits

Fundamental treatment of mass, heat, and momentum transfer; emphasis on transport properties and mathematical models of chemical engineering transport processes. CH E 446 Transport Phenomena (3) This is an intermediate course in transport phenomena intended to expand on the materials introduced in the required undergraduate courses on momentum, heat and mass transfer. It introduces the student to the rigorous formulation of transport problems using the conservation principles and flux expressions, and identifies the similarities and differences among the transport processes for momentum, heat, and mass. The main focus of the course is on microscopic treatment of transport problems, with particular emphasis on proper use of dimensional analysis and scaling arguments. Transport phenomena is a rather mathematical subject and the student is assumed to be familiar with ordinary and partial differential equations, elementary vector analysis, and elementary numerical techniques. This course is intended to prepare the student for a graduate-level course in transport phenomena.

**Prerequisite:** CH E 330, CH E 350, CH E 360; prerequisite or concurrent: CH E 410

CHE 449: Bioseparations

3 Credits

Analysis and design of separation processes for the purification of biological molecules. CH E 449 Bioseparations (3) This course introduces students to the principles and applications of separation processes used for the purification of biological molecules, including fine chemicals, pharmaceuticals, and therapeutic proteins. By the end of the course students will be able to perform preliminary design calculations and scale-up of specific separation systems including centrifugation, filtration, chromatography, and membrane processes. Students will also be able to develop outlines of overall separation schemes appropriate for the purification of different biological products. This course is required for the Bioprocessing and Biomolecular Engineering Option in Chemical Engineering.

**Prerequisite:** CH E 410

CHE 450: Process Dynamics and Control

3 Credits

Analysis of time-dependent variables in chemical process plants; reactor design and control; computer applications. CHE 450 Process Dynamics and Control (3) The course is an introduction to chemical process dynamics and control and is offered as a technical elective. The first part of the course is devoted on the dynamical behavior of systems and the mathematical tools (differential equations, Laplace transforms) used in their analysis. The second part of the course covers the design and operation of various types of controllers, including proportional, integral and differential and their combinations. The theoretical principles are demonstrated with applications to chemical engineering processes such as storage tanks, chemical reactors and separation processes.

**Prerequisite:** CHE 210 with minimum grade of C and MATH 251

CHE 452: Chemical Process Safety

3 Credits

This course provides an overview of Process Safety in the Chemical Industry, focusing on the nature of chemical plant accidents. CHE 452 Chemical Process Safety (3) The course will provide an overview of Process Safety in the Chemical Industry, focusing on the nature of chemical plant accidents, their causes, and steps to eliminate them, with emphasis on inherently safe designs. Chemical Plant accidents deal most often with Flammability and Toxicity issues and these are dealt with in great detail. The role of Human Error in accidents is also examined. Actual case studies (including Bhopal, BP Texas City, Piper Alpha) will be examined to show the relevance in today's workplace. The course requires active student participation via discussions of system designs, their weakness and improvements. Guest lecturers will also be invited to supplement the material. This is offered as a senior elective in Chemical Engineering.

**Prerequisite:** CHE 320 CONCURRENT: CHE 330, CHE 350

CHE 455: Drug Delivery, Pharmacokinetics, and Artificial Organs

3 Credits

CHE 455 is an elective course that examines the application of chemical engineering principles (thermodynamics, transport, and kinetics) to the analysis of a number of medically related phenomena and devices. Specific topics include drug delivery systems, pharmacokinetics, artificial organs, biological transport phenomena, and temperature regulation. One of the important goals of the course is to understand how chemical engineers go about developing appropriate physical models for complex biological systems. Emphasis will be placed on identifying the key physical / biological phenomena governing the system behavior. Where appropriate, the course will also examine some of the social, political, and economic implications of medical technology in our society, e.g., the artificial kidney program. Students do not need a background in biology or physiology -- the key biological phenomena will be covered at appropriate places throughout the semester.

**Prerequisite:** CHE 350, BME 409, BME 413, or BE 302 RECOMMENDED PREPARATION: CHE 410

CHE 470: Design of Chemical Plants

3 Credits

Lectures and practicum on methods and calculations, including economic evaluations for the design of chemical plants; formal technical report required. CH E 470 Design of Chemical Plants (3) The chemical engineering capstone design course introduces the principles of process design and economic evaluation utilizing various industry computer tools, with special emphasis on process simulators. The student will develop critical design logic to evaluate a process, starting with block flow diagrams and simple material balances utilizing practical heuristics and then build the process flowsheet through computer simulation, flowsheet optimization, and detailed equipment design.

**Prerequisite:** CH E 410, CH E 430
CHE 480M: Chemical Engineering Laboratory (Honors)  
3 Credits  
Data interpretation and analysis from student-operated experiments on pilot-plant equipment. Individual written and oral technical reports. CHE 480M CHE 480M Chemical Engineering Laboratory (Honors) (3) CHE 480M is the laboratory course in chemical engineering. The objectives of CHE 480M is to provide hands-on experience with chemical engineering equipment and consists of a series of experiments that cover the major subjects in chemical engineering, namely, fluid flow, heat transfer, separations and reactions. The subject matter on which these experiments are based is taught in various junior-senior-level classes. This course does not introduce new material but focuses instead on planning, execution and interpretation of experiments. The special aspect of the honors section is that students will be given an open-ended experimental research project.  
Prerequisites: CHE 230, CHE 320, CHE 330, CHE 350 Concurrent Courses: CHE 410 Honors  
Writing Across the Curriculum  
CHE 480W: Chemical Engineering Laboratory  
3 Credits  
Data interpretation and correlation from student-operated experiments on pilot-plant equipment. Individual written and oral technical reports. CHE 480W Chemical Engineering Laboratory (3) This is the laboratory course in Chemical Engineering. Its objective is to provide hands-on experience with chemical engineering equipment and consists of a series of experiments that cover the major subjects in chemical engineering, namely, fluid flow, heat transfer, separations and reactions. The subject matter on which these experiments are based is taught in various junior- and senior-level classes. CHE 480W does not introduce new material but focuses instead on planning, execution and interpretation of experiments. The course is team-based and includes laboratory sessions as well as lectures. Evaluation is based on the written and oral reports given based on experiments performed. These reports undergo several drafts, in which at different times students or faculty evaluate the report, suggesting corrections. Course evaluation may also include a ‘pre-exam’ to assure that the students understand technical material coming into the course. Peers assess each others’ performance (contributing to the grade), as does the faculty.  
Prerequisites: CHE 230, CHE 320, CHE 330, CHE 350 Concurrent Courses: CHE 410 Honors  
Writing Across the Curriculum  
CHE 494: Research Projects in Chemical Engineering  
1-6 Credits/Maximum of 6  
An original problem, including a search of the literature, experimental investigation, and preparation in formal thesis form.  
Prerequisite: Permission of program  
CHE 494H: Research Projects in Chemical Engineering (Honors)  
1-6 Credits/Maximum of 6  
An original problem, including a search of the literature, experimental investigation, and preparation in formal thesis form. CH E 494H CH E 494H Research Projects in Chemical Engineering (1-6) Undergraduate research projects for honors students leading to the generation of a thesis for the Schreyer Honors College. The content of this course typically falls within the research interests of the chemical engineering faculty. The work can be computational, theoretical or experimental in nature and culminates with the writing of an honors thesis. Students should select a thesis advisor prior to enrolling in this course and file an honors thesis proposal form with the Schreyer honors College. A student outside of chemical engineering can take the course if they are working towards an honors thesis in chemical engineering. A student in chemical engineering can take this course with a co-advisor outside of chemical engineering; however, the CH E  
Prerequisite: Permission of program  
Honors  
CHE 496: Independent Studies  
1-18 Credits/Maximum of 18  
Creative projects, including research and design, that are supervised on an individual basis and that fall outside the scope of formal courses.  
CHE 497: Special Topics  
1-9 Credits/Maximum of 9  
Formal courses given infrequently to explore, in depth, a comparatively narrow subject which may be topical or of special interest.  
CHE 499: Foreign Studies  
1-12 Credits/Maximum of 12  
Courses offered in foreign countries by individual or group instruction.  
International Cultures (IL)