

SCHOOL OF BASIC SCIENCES

Syllabus for Ph.D. Entrance Examination in Chemistry

Physical Chemistry:

1. Basic principles and applications of quantum mechanics – hydrogen atom, angular momentum.
2. Variational and perturbational methods.
3. Basics of atomic structure, electronic configuration, shapes of orbitals, hydrogen atom spectra.
4. Theoretical treatment of atomic structures and chemical bonding.
5. Chemical applications of group theory.
6. Basic principles and application of spectroscopy – rotational, vibrational, electronic, Raman, ESR, NMR.
7. Chemical thermodynamics.
8. Phase equilibria.
9. Statistical thermodynamics.
10. Chemical equilibria.
11. Electrochemistry – Nernst equation, electrode kinetics, electrical double layer, Debye-Hückel theory.
12. Chemical kinetics – empirical rate laws, Arrhenius equation, theories of reaction rates, determination of reaction mechanisms, experimental techniques for fast reactions.
13. Concepts of catalysis.
14. Polymer chemistry. Molecular weights and their determinations. Kinetics of chain polymerization.
15. Solids - structural classification of binary and ternary compounds, diffraction techniques, bonding, thermal, electrical and magnetic properties
16. Collids and surface phenomena.
17. Data analysis.

Inorganic Chemistry

1. Chemical periodicity
2. Structure and bonding in homo- and heteronuclear molecules, including shapes of molecules.
3. Concepts of acids and bases.
4. Chemistry of the main group elements and their compounds. Allotropy, synthesis, bonding and structure.
5. Chemistry of transition elements and coordination compounds – bonding theories, spectral and magnetic properties, reaction mechanisms.
6. Inner transition elements – spectral and magnetic properties, analytical applications.
7. Organometallic compounds - synthesis, bonding and structure, and reactivity. Organometallics in homogenous catalysis.
8. Cages and metal clusters.
9. Analytical chemistry- separation techniques. Spectroscopic electro- and thermoanalytical methods.
10. Bioinorganic chemistry – photosystems, porphyrines, metalloenzymes, oxygen transport, electron- transfer reactions, nitrogen fixation.
11. Physical characterisation of inorganic compounds by IR, Raman, NMR, EPR, Mössbauer, UV-, NQR, MS,

electron spectroscopy and microscopic techniques.

12. Nuclear chemistry – nuclear reactions, fission and fusion, radio-analytical techniques and activation analysis.

Organic Chemistry

1. IUPAC nomenclature of organic compounds.
2. Principles of stereochemistry, conformational analysis, isomerism and chirality.
3. Reactive intermediates and organic reaction mechanisms.
4. Concepts of aromaticity.
5. Pericyclic reactions.
6. Named reactions.
7. Transformations and rearrangements.
8. Principles and applications of organic photochemistry. Free radical reactions.
9. Reactions involving nucleophilic carbon intermediates.
10. Oxidation and reduction of functional groups.
11. Common reagents (organic, inorganic and organometallic) in organic synthesis.
12. Chemistry of natural products such as steroids, alkaloids, terpenes, peptides, carbohydrates, nucleic acids and lipids.
13. Selective organic transformations – chemoselectivity, regioselectivity, stereoselectivity, enantioselectivity. Protecting groups.
14. Chemistry of aromatic and aliphatic heterocyclic compounds.
15. Physical characterisation of organic compounds by IR, UV-, MS, and NMR.

Interdisciplinary topics

1. Chemistry in nanoscience and technology.
2. Catalysis and green chemistry.
3. Medicinal chemistry.
4. Supramolecular chemistry.
5. Environmental chemistry.