To: Ian Evans  
From: Simon Bott  
Re: Chemistry Exams for Credit/Hours  

3.1.2011

We would like to request some modifications to the Chemistry listings for the above. These do not affect IB requirements that are listed separately in the catalog.

Currently:

CHEM 1331 AP Chemistry (4) or  
CLEP Chemistry 50  
CHEM 1111 Departmental assessment  
CHEM 1117 Departmental assessment  
CHEM 1332 Departmental exam (21)  
CHEM 1372 AP Chemistry (4) or  
CLEP Chemistry 50

Requested:

CHEM 1331 AP Chemistry (4) or  
Departmental exam (75%)  
CHEM 1111 Departmental assessment  
CHEM 1112 Departmental assessment  
CHEM 1117 Departmental assessment  
CHEM 1332 AP Chemistry (5) and Departmental exam (75%)  
CHEM 1372 AP Chemistry (4) or  
Departmental exam (75%)

Rationale:

More than 80% of those students who CLEP through CHEM 1331 do not succeed in CHEM 1332 compared to 22% of those who take CHEM 1331 at UH. The CLEP exam is too simple. Thus, we do not wish to use it at all.
We have two levels of departmental exam – one that tests CHEM 1331, one that tests CHEM 1332. We already use the latter for students who have done extremely well on the AP Chemistry (applying the previously invisible requirement of 5 on the AP). We have tested the former and found it to be a good measure of knowledge of CHEM 1331 and predictor of success in CHEM 1332. We would like to use the former for students who would usually have tried to CLEP through CHEM 1331 (e.g., those who took chemistry courses in a different country or a long time ago or have a combination of good high school and industrial experience).

Students who pass the CHEM 1332 assessment can usually qualify for being given credit for the CHEM 1112 lab. However, the ability to assign this credit was lost from the catalog years ago and never replaced until now!
Morales, Jeanette F

From: Evans, Ian
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2011 3:12 PM
To: Morales, Jeanette F
Cc: Bott, Simon G
Subject: Catalog changes

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Red
Attachments: Chemistry Testing.doc

Dear Jeanette: The NS&M Curriculum Committee has approved the changes proposed by the Department of Chemistry for Chemistry exams for credit/hours. Please see attached.

Ian Evans
Assoc. Dean