

From: [Steele, Rachel](#)
To: [Ramirez, Ana](#); [Clark, Ted](#); [Jackman, Jane](#)
Cc: [Ottesen, Jennifer](#); [Vankeerbergen, Bernadette](#); [Hilty, Michael](#); [Steele, Rachel](#); [Martin, Andrew](#)
Subject: Chemistry 1206
Date: Thursday, May 11, 2023 6:14:48 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[image007.png](#)

Good evening,

On Wednesday, May 10th, the Natural and Mathematical Sciences Panel of the ASC Curriculum Committee reviewed a new course proposal for Chemistry 1206.

The Panel unanimously approved the request with one contingency, five recommendations, and 3 comments:

- a. Comment: The Panel commends the department for creating this new course sequence, and for their attention to student success and diversity, equity, and inclusion in the Natural and Mathematical Sciences.
- b. **Contingency:** The Panel asks that the department consider dropping the option to enroll in the course with only a math placement score of “N” or “R”. As it is currently stated, the pre-requisite requirements allow for students with the math placement score “N” or “R” to enroll in Chemistry 1206 without concurrently enrolling in a math course. The Panel offers the friendly observation that this could create two potential problems for students:
 - i. Students who enroll in Chemistry 1206 may not be receiving the parallel mathematics instruction necessary to be successful in Chemistry 1206.
 - ii. Students who successfully complete Chemistry 1206 and wish to enroll in Chemistry 1208 will need a grade of C- or better in Math 1120, 1130, 1131, 1148, 1150, or higher to do so. If students with math placement levels of “N” or “R” are not enrolled in Math 1148 (for students who receive a score of “N”) or Math 1120 (for students who receive a score of “R”) concurrently with Chemistry 1206, they will not be able to continue to 1208 in the following semester.

While the Panel is not dictating that the department change the pre-requisite, given the department’s clear focus on student success in this course, the Panel felt that the department might wish to know about the (possibly unintended) consequences of the current structure. They recommend removing mention of math placement scores from the pre-requisite requirements.

- c. *Recommendation:* The Panel recommends that the department reconsider the policy of discarding records related to student grades after 60 days (syllabus pg. 5). According to the [Faculty Rules 3335-8-23\(A\) and 3335-8-23.1](#), materials submitted by a student to satisfy course requirements must be preserved until the last day on which a grade change may be initiated, which is prior to the end of the second succeeding semester or summer term. More information and a chart outlining the OSU General Records Retention Schedule are available here: <https://library.osu.edu/osu-records-management/retention-schedules> (see pg. 5 and pg. 40 of the [OSU General Records Retention Schedule](#) PDF [pg. 33 of the document] for relevant information).
- d. *Recommendation:* The Panel recommends that the department clarify the late homework policy (syllabus pg. 5), as the paragraph regarding Online Homework states that “no late work will be accepted for a grade”, then later states that “weekly due dates are meant for students to keep pace, but late homework will be accepted”.

- e. *Recommendation:* The Panel recommends that the department be more specific about what devices will support the lock-down browser (making them appropriate for taking the in-person Carmen exams), as the university no longer distributes iPads to incoming students, and some tablets and phones may not be compatible with the exam format. If students must have access to a laptop or other device, this should be specified in the syllabus in both the section describing the exams (pg. 5) and the “Other Required Materials” section (pg. 2). They also offer the friendly observation that the section of the syllabus that outlines the importance of Carmen to students (pg. 1-2) suggests that they download the Canvas app but does not explain to students the connection between Carmen and Canvas.
- f. *Recommendation:* The Panel recommends that the department amend the statement that “Chem 1206 + Chem 1208 are equivalent to Chem 1210” (syllabus pg. 1), as other units may choose NOT to accept Chemistry 1208 as a replacement for 1210. The Panel instead suggests language such as “The content of Chem 1206 +1208 are equivalent to the content in Chemistry 1210, and students who successfully complete Chemistry 1206 and 1208 will be eligible to enroll in Chemistry 1220. If you plan to use Chemistry 1206 and 1208 in place of a pre-requisite of 1210 required by another department, please check with your Academic Advisor to make sure that Chem 1206/1208 will fulfill that unit’s requirements.”
- g. *Recommendation:* The Panel suggests that the unit reach out to Central Advising and other stakeholder units across the university about the availability of this sequence (pending full approval), as advisors/other units may wish to adjust orientation materials, alter their own course pre-requisites, or clarify the relationship of Chem 1206/1208 to the General Education requirement for their students.
- h. Comment: The Panel would like the department to be aware that there have been some issues raised regarding accessibility in the PebblePad software, so it may be necessary to have alternative assignments available. Additionally, while PebblePad is currently the software that will be used for the GEN Bookend Seminars, the department may wish to monitor this in case the university decides to change the platform around which these courses are built.
- i. Comment: The Panel offers the friendly suggestion that the Academic Misconduct section of the syllabus (pg. 12-13) include a statement about whether artificial intelligence software (such as ChatGPT), is allowed to be used in the course and, if so, in what contexts.

As a reminder, **contingencies** (in bold above) must be addressed and resubmitted via curriculum.osu.edu before a course can move forward in the approval process. *Recommendations* (in italics above) should be implemented when the course is next taught. I will return Chemistry 1206 to the department queue via curriculum.osu.edu in order to address the Panel’s requests.

Should you have any questions about the feedback of the Panel, please feel free to contact Jen Ottesen (faculty Chair of the NMS Panel; cc’d on this e-mail), or me.

Best,
Rachel



Rachel Steele, MA

(Pronouns: she/her/hers / Honorific: Ms.)

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I acknowledge that the land that The Ohio State University occupies is the ancestral and contemporary territory of the Shawnee, Potawatomi, Delaware, Miami, Peoria, Seneca, Wyandotte, Ojibwe and Cherokee peoples. Specifically, the university resides on land ceded in the 1795 Treaty of Greenville and the forced removal of tribes through the Indian Removal Act of 1830. I honor the resiliency of these tribal nations and recognize the historical contexts that has and continues to affect the Indigenous peoples of this land.