

Eye Protection. You are required to bring your safety equipment to every laboratory session, including safety glasses that can be worn over prescription glasses, and a lab coat or lab apron. Some procedures such as use of Nochromix will require the use of safety goggles; bring them with you when necessary. Approved eye protection (available at the UCI Bookstore) must be worn in the laboratory at all times. Contact lenses may not be used because volatile chemicals that get into the eye may become trapped under a lens. When entering the lab for the first time, look for the location of the nearest eyewash, and keep its location in mind throughout the quarter. If contamination of the eyes occurs, promptly find the nearest eyewash and rinse the affected areas continuously for at least 15 minutes.

Protective Clothing and Footwear. Closed-toe shoes and an apron are required in the laboratory. No open-toe shoes, slippers, high-heeled shoes, shorts, short skirts or open belly/back/shoulder shirts are allowed in the lab. **Arms and legs must be fully covered with clothing.** Baggy clothing with large flaps is also not allowed (because you may accidentally knock down glass containers when moving your arms). Our recommendations are: jeans, long-sleeved shirt, socks, and fully closed shoes. You will be asked to go home and change if your dress is inappropriate. Points will then be deducted for being late.

Safety Equipment. The eyewash and safety shower are located outside RH 491. Become aware of the location of the safety shower so that you can find it quickly if an emergency requiring full body rinsing arises. The lab is equipped with a first aid kit, fire extinguisher, and fire blanket. Learn their locations, and follow the instructions of your laboratory TA concerning their use. Vinyl gloves are available in the lab. You must wear them for handling any irritating or dangerous substances. However, gloves must be removed prior to touching common objects around the lab such as computer keyboards, doorknobs, pens, etc. Treat any spill on the skin as serious and rinse the area extensively with water for at least 15 minutes. You must report chemical spills and other safety issues to your laboratory TA. Be prepared to remove any contaminated clothing, which may be holding noxious materials in contact with your skin and use the emergency shower if necessary. Your safety is more important than your modesty in such instances.

Laboratory Conduct. Eating and drinking in the lab is strictly forbidden. Have a good nutritious meal before lab. You are welcome to store food inside your backpacks. Using cell phones, listening to music, and using headphones are not permitted in the lab for safety reasons. Do not make a mess in your work area and in common work areas (such as balance stations). It is not only unsafe and inconsiderate; it may also cost you points for your work. You will be required to clean everything up in your work area when you finish your work. If the TA finds the common lab areas to be very dirty/messy after everyone has left the lab, he/she may choose to deduct points from the entire class.

Fume Hoods. Chemicals/procedures that may release fumes must be handled/carried out in a fume hood. Fume hood lights should be turned on before use. Verify that the fume hood is functioning properly before starting a procedure. A good test is to hold a thin strip of paper next to the fume hood and see whether the air is flowing inside.

Spills. Spills of any kind (even water) must be cleaned up immediately so that other people are not threatened in any way. Acid spills must be neutralized immediately with base, and tested with litmus paper to ensure neutrality, before being wiped clean. Equipment, especially balances, must be protected from spills. Never make up solutions near equipment or transfer chemicals over equipment. Never set container with liquids or solids on top of instruments.

Disposal of Used Materials: No chemicals or solutions are to be disposed of by pouring them down the drain. Disposal of certain neutralized acids constitutes an exception; your TA will instruct you concerning the proper disposal methods for each experiment. Be sure to dispose of each item in the proper container. Do not use more chemicals than necessary, disposal is very expensive.

Chemical Hazards: Treat every chemical as hazardous until you are thoroughly familiar with its properties. Consult your TA or MSDS (material safety data sheet) references, available online if you are not absolutely sure of the nature and degree of possible hazards. Double check the label on any container from to verify the identity of the chemical being used. Never return chemicals to their storage containers. Take only the amount of chemical that you will use.

Fatigue and sickness

Fatigue. Have a good night's rest before the lab. Your TA will ask you to leave the if you show significant signs of fatigue, exhaustion, or sickness.

Infectious Diseases (Flu, etc.). Students with symptoms of infectious diseases may not come to the lab under any circumstances (if you do you will be sent back home). Inform your lab TA about your absence by e-mail. Make-ups are permitted with a doctor's note.