

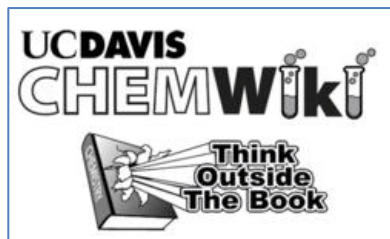


Faculty Review of Open eTextbooks

The [California Open Educational Resources Council](http://www.cool4ed.org) has designed and implemented a faculty review process of the free and open etextbooks showcased within the California Open Online Library for Education (www.cool4ed.org). Faculty from the California Community Colleges, the California State University, and the University of California were invited to review the selected no/low cost and open etextboks using a rubric. Faculty received a stipend for their efforts and funding was provided by the State of California, the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Textbook Name:

UC Davis ChemWiki



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Find it: [eTextbook Website](#)

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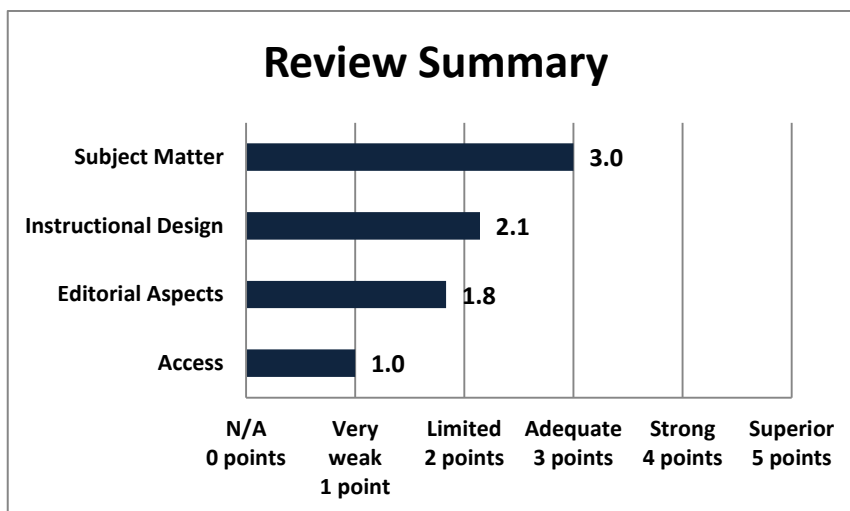
Format Reviewed:

[Online](#)

A small fee may be associated with various formats.

Date Reviewed:

August, 2014.



California OER Council eTextbook Evaluation Rubric

CA Course ID: [CHEM 110](#) or [CHEM 120S](#)

Subject Matter (30 possible points)	N/A (0 pts)	Very Weak (1pt)	Limited (2 pts)	Adequate (3pts)	Strong (4 pts)	Superior (5 pts)
Is the content accurate, error-free, and unbiased?				X		
Does the text adequately cover the designated course with a sufficient degree of depth and scope?				X		
Does the textbook use sufficient and relevant examples to present its subject matter?			X			
Does the textbook use a clear, consistent terminology to present its subject matter?				X		
Does the textbook reflect current knowledge of the subject matter?				X		
Does the textbook present its subject matter in a culturally sensitive manner? (e.g. Is the textbook free of offensive and insensitive examples? Does it include examples that are inclusive of a variety of races, ethnicities, and backgrounds?)					X	

Total points: 18 out of 30

Please provide comments on any aspect of the subject matter of this textbook:

- The level of the textbook is adequate for a general chemistry course at a community college.

Instructional Design (35 possible points)	N/A (0 pts)	Very Weak (1pt)	Limited (2 pts)	Adequate (3pts)	Strong (4 pts)	Superior (5 pts)
Does the textbook present its subject materials at appropriate reading levels for undergrad use?				X		
Does the textbook reflect a consideration of different learning styles? (e.g. visual, textual?)				X		
Does the textbook present explicit learning outcomes aligned with the course and curriculum?				X		
Is a coherent organization of the textbook evident to the reader/student?		X				
Does the textbook reflect best practices in the instruction of the designated course?			X			
Does the textbook contain sufficient effective ancillary materials? (e.g. test banks, individual and/or group activities or exercises, pedagogical apparatus, etc.)		X				
Is the textbook searchable?			X			

Total points: 15 out of 35 points

Please provide comments on any aspect of the subject matter of this textbook:

- The writing style is typical for a chemistry textbook (not really a good thing). There are sections that are confusing to read and understand. The spelling and grammar are fine, but seems no editing has been done to see if an explanation could be improved.

Editorial Aspects (25 possible points)	N/A (0 pts)	Very Weak (1pt)	Limited (2 pts)	Adequate (3pts)	Strong (4 pts)	Superior (5 pts)
Is the language of the textbook free of grammatical, spelling, usage, and typographical errors?					X	
Is the textbook written in a clear, engaging style?			X			
Does the textbook adhere to effective principles of design? (e.g. are pages laid out and organized to be clear and visually engaging and effective? Are colors, font, and typography consistent and unified?)			X			
Does the textbook include conventional editorial features? (e.g. a table of contents, glossary, citations and further references)			X			
How effective are multimedia elements of the textbook? (e.g. graphics, animations, audio)		X				

Total points: 11 out of 25 points

Please provide comments on any aspect of the subject matter of this textbook:

- I used the online form of the textbook (could not find a way to download) and there are text and pictures.
- Several of the figures that are referenced in the text have no image (it even says Image Not Available).
- The quantum chapters almost every single image is unavailable and there are several instances where the text looks like a bunch of computer program.
- Several chapters are unusable because of this.

Access (30 possible points)	N/A (0 pts)	Very Weak (1pt)	Limited (2 pts)	Adequate (3pts)	Strong (4 pts)	Superior (5 pts)
Is the textbook compatible with standard and commonly available hardware/software in college/university campus student computer labs?			X			
Is the textbook accessible in a variety of different electronic formats? (e.g. .txt, .pdf, .epub, etc.)		X				
Can the textbook be printed easily?		X				
Does the user interface implicitly inform the reader		X				

Access (30 possible points)	N/A (0 pts)	Very Weak (1pt)	Limited (2 pts)	Adequate (3pts)	Strong (4 pts)	Superior (5 pts)
how to interact with and navigate the textbook?						
How easily can the textbook be annotated by students and instructors?		X				

Total points: 6 out of 30 points

Please provide comments on any aspect of the subject matter of this textbook:

- I spent 10 minutes trying to find out how to download the book and get access via download, but could not find anything useful. I decided to use the book directly from on-line. Found the navigation clunky.
- Some chapters, when finished you can press the continue link at the bottom of the page, but other chapters, there is no link and you have to press the back button to get back to a page where you can then access the main page and go from there. It is not extremely aggravating.

Overall Ratings						
	Not at all (0 pts)	Very Weak (1 pt)	Limited (2 pts)	Adequate (3 pts)	Strong (4 pts)	Superior (5 pts)
What is your overall impression of the textbook?			X			
	Not at all (0 pts)	Strong reservations (1 pt)	Limited willingness (2 pts)	Willing (3 pts)	Strongly willing (4 pts)	Enthusiastically willing (5 pts)
How willing would you be to adopt this book?	X					

Overall Comments

If you were to recommend this textbook to colleagues, what merits of the textbook would you highlight?

- It adequately explains chemistry topics. More of an extra information source, rather than a textbook I would use in class. Plenty of worked examples in the text, but they range on the simple side.

What areas of this textbook require improvement in order for it to be used in your courses?

- The entire design of the website would have to be redone so that it is easy to go from one section of the book to the next. The images would have to be redone so they all show and the parts of the text that have computer code instead of text would have to be fixed. In addition, the author would have to add more challenging examples and instead of explaining chemical concepts using a problem, would need to describe the concept, followed by using a problem to reinforce the concept.

We invite you to add your feedback on the textbook or the review to [the textbook site in MERLOT](#).
(Please [register](#) in MERLOT to post your feedback.)



For questions or more information, contact the [CA Open Educational Resources Council](#)



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