

CODE 9305

ABOUT THIS COURSE

This course is designed for teachers who are new to teaching AQA A-Level Chemistry, or who wish to improve their understanding to enable their students to achieve higher grades. The sessions are designed to improve delegates' understanding of AQA A-Level Chemistry specification and ensure that candidates have the best opportunity to maximise their potential grades.

Delegates will receive new teaching approaches as well as key guidance in how to develop exceptional examination and practical techniques in AQA A-Level Chemistry to maximise students' success when delivering the course for the first time.

PROGRAMME

TIME

Introduction: identifying methods that will enhance performance from the start

10.00 – 11.15am

- Overview of the specification – introducing the scheme of work and baseline assessment
- How can you use mental models and metacognition to get the best out of your students
- Link with content from GCSE and highlight traditional areas where students can struggle
- Analysing the assessment criteria and looking how to incorporate AO1, AO2 and AO3 in your lessons
- Recognising which areas will be the most challenging and preparing for these
- Identifying your support network and making the most of it

Discussion: coffee break

11.15 – 11.30am

Tackling the Challenging Content of AQA A-Level Chemistry

11.30 – 12.15pm

- Planning and teaching the more demanding topics – what these are and how to factor them into your teaching
- Making complicated concepts easy; faded scaffolds and modelling
- Teaching ideas, related questions and supporting resources to help improve student understanding
- Teaching for the different types of questions, with examples, so that you can help students access all the available marks
- Formative assessment and feedback; how can this be threaded through all of your lessons to maximise pupil learning

How to teach some of the conceptually hardest topics

12.15 – 1.15pm

- Scaffolding mathematical content for both mathematicians and non-mathematicians ensuring stretch and challenge for all students
- Identifying where most marks are lost in exams and how to support students to ensure they minimise errors
- Teaching analytical techniques for exam success including NMR
- Breaking down the questions and fool proof support to answer NMR questions
- Maximising marks for A* students
- Planning for success, teaching methodologies and using retrieval practice to boost student performance
- Teaching ideas with associated questions and resources
- Getting students involved in their learning – making theory 'practical'

Lunch and informal discussion

1.15 – 2.15pm

Managing the Required Practical Activities

2.15 – 3.15pm

- What you have to teach, what the students have to do and know
- How to mark Required Practicals and the information that AQA will expect
- The AQA standard at different grades and getting your students to reach it
- How to structure a programme of practical teaching and assessment that helps your students gain the best marks
- Structured v Investigative approaches – finding the opportunities
- Techniques to help students construct excellent written responses in the exams: where and why they can struggle in A-Level with this skill

Effectively tackling the Exam Papers

3.15 – 3.45pm

- How to approach teaching A-level exam skills with confidence
- Teaching towards the 'endgame', what language to use, ensure you are marking 'like the examiner' and secure grading
- Focus on essay structure in exams, how to pick up easy marks, and what top grade responses look like
- Marking and assessment strategies: supporting students to access the higher-level grades
- Extended answers – ideas for development

LOCATION/DATE

London

Wednesday 06 March 2024

Wednesday 26 June 2024

COURSE LEADER

Dee Martin is Head of Chemistry & STEM at Prince Henry's High School in Evesham, an Academy with a non-selective intake. She is an experienced AQA A-Level Chemistry examiner and currently delivers revision courses to many schools across the country guiding teachers in preparing for exams and helping to raise student grades.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

- All teachers new, or nearly new, to teaching AQA A-Level Chemistry
- Those who lack confidence, or who feel they would benefit from a refresher course

BENEFITS OF ATTENDING

- Obtain excellent understanding of the complexities of the AQA A-Level Chemistry specification
- Gain insight into the content, the exam structure and how the exams are marked
- Develop your teaching in specific topic areas to raise standard of achievement
- Examples of extended A-Level questions: how to prepare students to get the most possible marks