

Department: Chemistry and Biochemistry

Course Information: CHEM 3432 Descriptive Inorganic Chemistry

Instructor: Professor Berry

Below is information about the sections of the course, the number of LAs we expect to hire per section, and the meeting times that you will be expected to attend for each section.

Before you apply, ensure that these times fit into your schedule.

Section #	Expected Number of LAs for this section	LAs need to attend course functions at the following times:
1	1	Biochemistry 2: M,W,F 8:00 AM - 8:50 AM CHEM 150 Descriptive Inorganic Chemistry: T,Th 12:00 PM - 01:15 PM CHEM 150

In addition to being available for the times listed above, working as an LA also requires the following:

1. All LAs must meet weekly with their faculty member to prepare for the following week's events at a time mutually acceptable to the faculty and LA
2. **All new LAs** must be available to attend a training from 4:30pm – 8pm on Wednesday, January 14th, 2026 (if you have extenuating circumstances that prevent you from attending this training, please contact Carrie Misuraco at cmisurac@d.umn.edu)
3. **All new LAs** must be available to complete training on one of the following weekly times:
Wednesdays 3-3:50pm
Wednesdays 4-4:50pm
Thursdays 2-2:50pm

What will an LA do in this course?

The role of the LA varies slightly in each course. Read below for more information from Professor Berry on the LA's role in this course.

What is the role of the LA in this course?

The LA will assist the instructor by walking around the classroom to help students work through Biochemistry or Descriptive Inorganic chemistry problems: the LA will receive a copy of the problems and a solutions guide in advance of the lecture. During lecture, the LA will assist students by answering questions, guiding student learning, and filling in gaps in student understanding. Also, the LA will provide vital feedback to me as the instructor by reviewing in class work and summarizing areas that students understand and areas that need further clarification. The LA will also have the opportunity to collaborate with the instructor on review sessions. The LA can also provide feedback on what's working in the course and provide input and ideas on opportunities for improvement.

How could being an LA for this course benefit you?

Highly rewarding benefits of LA work in this course include the joy of interacting with students, the satisfaction of helping students learn a topic, and the personal mastery of chemistry topics. The LA will be provided with the in-class problem sets and the answers in advance of the class. The LA is therefore able to focus on mentoring students, developing teacher-pupil relationships, and helping to teach the students chemistry concepts. In addition, the LA gains confidence in the chemistry material for themselves and the LA develops the ability to communicate concepts to others.

Additional Questions:

The LA is expected to have familiarity with biochemistry and descriptive Inorganic chemistry topics by having previously passed the courses.

