

Point Loma Nazarene University  
Department of Chemistry

**CHE4066 – Bioinorganic Chemistry**  
**Spring Term, Quad 1, 2026,**

MWF, 1:30 – 2:35 pm in RLC 104

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Office hours: Monday by appointment.

Sator 206  
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*Prerequisite*

Successful completion of Organic Chemistry II (CHE2096) or consent of professor is required.

**Course Description**

Development of significant topics in bioinorganic chemistry particularly those at the interface of chemistry and biology. Emphasis is placed on understanding the role of metals in biological systems such as enzymes and DNA. This is a 2-unit course.

**Course Learning Outcomes**

At the completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Explain the importance of transition metals in biological systems.
- Define the role of metal ions in various biological systems.
- Describe different instrumental methods used to study the metals in biological systems.

**Required Textbook:** *Principles of Bioinorganic Chemistry*, Lippard and Berg, University Science Books, 1994. ISBN: 9780935702736

**Recommended Textbook:** *Bioinorganic Chemistry*, Bertini, Gray, Lippard, & Valentine. This text is available free of charge at:  
[https://chem.libretexts.org/Bookshelves/Inorganic\\_Chemistry/Book3A\\_Bioinorganic\\_Chemistry\\_\(Bertini\\_et\\_al.\)](https://chem.libretexts.org/Bookshelves/Inorganic_Chemistry/Book3A_Bioinorganic_Chemistry_(Bertini_et_al.))

**Lecture Materials:** Lecture materials and other useful information will be available on Canvas.

**Grading:** The final grade will be determined as follows:

- Prelecture Questions, 10%
- Problem Sets, 10%
- Presentation, 20%
- Participation, 10%
- Midterm Exams, 30%
- Final Exam, 20%.

Letter grades will be assigned according to the following scale: A, 90 – 100%; B, 80 – 90%; C, 70 – 80%, D, 60 – 70%, F, below 60%.

**Prelecture reading quizzes:** A prelecture reading quiz will be available in canvas for each lecture class. The assignment will describe the reading to be completed before the next lecture and ask a few simple questions.

**Problem Sets:** Each chapter will have a problem set due two days after the last lecture of that material.

**Presentation:** Each student will deliver a 15–20 minute presentation discussing a topic in bioinorganic chemistry. More information will be provided in class.

**Participation:** Various in-class activities will be graded during the semester. These could include discussions, worksheets, etc.

**Exams:** There will be two midterm exams during the semester. The date of the midterm exams will depend on the pace of the class and at least one week notice will be given. The **final exam** (second exam) will be given on the last day of class: March 7.

**Program Learning Outcomes: CHEM PLO 1b:** Students will demonstrate understanding of and apply key concepts and principles of biochemistry. This PLO will be assessed using exams and other graded materials.

**PLNU Mission**  
**To Teach ~ To Shape ~ To Send**

Point Loma Nazarene University exists to provide higher education in a vital Christian community where minds are engaged and challenged, character is modeled and formed, and service is an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we strive to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

**PLNU FINAL EXAMINATION POLICY.** Successful completion of this class requires taking the final examination on its scheduled day. The final examination schedule is posted on the [Traditional Undergraduate Records: Final Exam Schedules](#) site. If you find yourself scheduled for three (3) or more final examinations on the same day, you are authorized to contact each professor to arrange a different time for one of those exams. However, unless you have three (3) or more exams on the same day, no requests for alternative final examinations will be granted.

**PLNU COPYRIGHT POLICY.** Point Loma Nazarene University, as a non-profit educational institution, is entitled by law to use materials protected by the US Copyright Act for classroom education. Any use of those materials outside the class may violate the law.

**INCOMPLETES AND LATE ASSIGNMENTS.** All assignments are to be submitted/turned in by the beginning of the class session when they are due—including assignments posted in Canvas. Incompletes will only be assigned in extremely unusual circumstances.

**PLNU Spiritual Care\***

PLNU strives to be a place where you grow as a whole person. To this end, we provide resources for our Graduate and Adult Undergraduate students to encounter God and grow in their Christian faith. We have onsite chaplains at our different campuses who may be available during class break times across the week. If you have questions or a desire to meet or share any prayer requests with our chaplains, you can find them at the [Chaplain's Page](#) via myPLNU.

In addition, the Mission Valley and Balboa campuses have a prayer chapel for use as a space set apart for quiet reflection and prayer.

**PLNU Academic Honesty Policy**

Students should demonstrate academic honesty by doing original work and by giving appropriate credit to the ideas of others. Academic dishonesty is the act of presenting information, ideas, and/or concepts as one's own when in reality they are the results of another person's creativity and effort. A faculty member who believes a situation involving academic dishonesty has been detected may assign a failing grade for that assignment or examination, or, depending on the seriousness of the offense, for the course. For all student appeals, faculty and students should follow the procedures outlined in the University Catalog. See [Adult Undergraduate Academic and General Policies](#) for definitions of kinds of academic dishonesty and for further policy information.

During the first week of class, you will be asked to submit an Academic Honesty Verification Statement. Submitting the statement is a requirement of this course. By submitting the Academic Honesty Verification Statement, you will be verifying all assignments completed in this course were completed by you. Carefully review the Academic Honesty Statement below.

**ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION POLICY.** Regular and punctual attendance at all class sessions is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. If the student is absent for more than 10 percent of class sessions, the faculty member will issue a written warning of de-enrollment. If the absences exceed 20 percent, the student may be de-enrolled without notice until the university withdrawal date or, after that date, receive an "F" grade.

**PLNU Recording Notification**

In order to enhance the learning experience, please be advised that this course may be recorded by the professor for educational purposes, and access to these recordings will be limited to enrolled students and authorized personnel.

Note that all recordings are subject to copyright protection. Any unauthorized distribution or publication of these recordings without written approval from the University (refer to the Dean) is strictly prohibited.

**Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy**

You are allowed to use Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools (e.g., ChatGPT, Gemini Pro 1.5, GrammarlyGo, Perplexity, etc.) to generate ideas, but you are not allowed to use AI tools to generate content (text, video, audio, images) that will end up in any work submitted to be graded for this course. If you have any doubts about using AI, please gain permission from the instructor.

**State Authorization**

State authorization is a formal determination by a state that Point Loma Nazarene University is approved to conduct activities regulated by that state. In certain states outside California, Point Loma Nazarene University is not authorized to enroll online (distance education) students. If a student moves to another state after admission to the program and/or enrollment in an online course, continuation within the program and/or course will depend on whether Point Loma Nazarene University is authorized to offer distance

education courses in that state. It is the student's responsibility to notify the institution of any change in his or her physical location. Refer to the map on [State Authorization](#) to view which states allow online (distance education) outside of California.

**PLNU Academic Accommodations Policy**

PLNU is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all its programs, services, and activities in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Students with disabilities may request course-related accommodations by contacting the Educational Access Center (EAC), located in the Bond Academic Center (EAC@pointloma.edu or 619-849-2533). Once a student's eligibility for an accommodation has been determined, the EAC will work with the student to create an Accommodation Plan (AP) that outlines allowed accommodations. Professors are able to view a student's approved accommodations through Accommodate.

PLNU highly recommends that students speak with their professors during the first two weeks of each semester/term about the implementation of their AP in that particular course. Accommodations are not retroactive so clarifying with the professor at the outset is one of the best ways to promote positive academic outcomes.

Students who need accommodations for a disability should contact the EAC as early as possible (i.e., ideally before the beginning of the semester) to assure appropriate accommodations can be provided. It is the student's responsibility to make the first contact with the EAC. Students cannot assume that because they had accommodations in the past, their eligibility at PLNU is automatic. All determinations at PLNU must go through the EAC process. This is to protect the privacy of students with disabilities who may not want to disclose this information and are not asking for any accommodations.