



Queen's  
University  
Belfast

## Library Services

The McClay Library  
10 College Park  
Belfast  
BT7 1LP

# Finding Information on Chemistry

This guide provides a brief introduction to sources of information in Chemistry. More detailed information and guidance are available from the Chemistry and Chemical Engineering subject librarian, Joan Whitaker, located on Floor 3 of the McClay Library – [J.Whitaker@qub.ac.uk](mailto:J.Whitaker@qub.ac.uk). (Tel. 02890976270).

## Finding books in the Library

Most chemistry books are shelved in the QD section on the third floor of the McClay Library. Some environmental chemistry books are shelved at TD and some chemistry with pharmacy and medicine books are shelved at RM. More general science books at Q may also be useful.

In the Library, you will find books suitable for undergraduates, many of them appropriate for particular modules of study. There are also more advanced books for a general scientific readership and others for specialised research purposes.

The Library Catalogue may be accessed at <http://www.qub.ac.uk/qcat>. You can search for the author and/or title of a book to see if it is in the Library and if so, find its shelf number, e.g. QD466GREE. You can also search for a keyword (subject/topic) to find what books on that particular subject are in the Library and where they are to be found. By clicking on the shelf number, you can also retrieve the titles of books shelved immediately before and immediately after your particular book.

## Short Loan

Books and other items on Reading Lists, or on heavy demand, are kept in the Short Loan Collection which is located on the ground floor next to the Borrower Services Desk. Items may be borrowed for periods of 24 or 48 hours or for 1 week.

## Reference Books

Many very useful general reference books are also available on the third floor at the beginning of the book sequence. Their shelf numbers are prefixed by **R**. These include dictionaries, encyclopaedias and handbooks such as *Lange's Handbook of Chemistry* (R/QD65LANG) and *Handbook of Physical Properties of Organic Chemicals* (R/QD257.7HOWE)

## Chemistry Reference Books

Other large, multi-volume works in Chemistry are to be found in the chemistry reference collection located beside the reference books on the third floor. Their shelf numbers are prefixed by **RC**. These include the *Encyclopedia of Inorganic Chemistry* (RC/QD148KING) and the *Dictionary of Organic Compounds* (RC/QD255.D46).

Many chemistry reference books are also available in electronic format. These are listed in the catalogue along with all the other reference books.

All **pre-1965 books** are held in the Library Store. Please ask at the Enquiry Desk if you need to borrow or consult a book from the store.

## Finding journals in the Library

Most Chemistry journals are shelved at QD and recent issues are on the sloping shelves near to the photocopying room on the third floor. The Library subscribes to a large number of chemistry journals and all titles are listed in the catalogue. Many are also available in electronic format. These include journals of the Royal Society of Chemistry and the American Chemical Society. All electronic journals are available through E-Resources at <http://www.qub.ac.uk/qcat>.

All **pre-1981** journals are located in the Library Store. Please ask at the Enquiry Desk if you would like to consult these journals.

Any journals or books which are not available in the Library can be obtained through the **Inter-library Loans** Service. You can apply for an inter-library loan through **My Account** at <http://www.qub.ac.uk/qcat>.

## Databases

The databases listed below contain the details and usually the abstracts (summaries) of articles in chemistry journals and also conference proceedings. For most journals there is a direct link from the database to the full text article through the red QConnect button. However, full text will not always be available for every reference retrieved through a database search.

Information about all these databases is available through the catalogue <http://www.qub.ac.uk/qcat> . Click on E-Resources.

### Web of Science, 1970-

A multidisciplinary database which covers over 8000 journals, including all major chemistry titles.

### Scifinder Scholar, 1907-

A database which includes full access to *Chemical Abstracts* and also access to a wide diversity of published research in biomedical sciences, material science, medicine and much more. Individual registration for *Scifinder* is essential.

### Reaxys, 1771-

A database for chemical compounds, bibliographic data, chemical reactions and structures. (Available until October 2011)

### **Index to Scientific and Technical Proceedings, 1990-**

A database available through Web of Science.

### **Zetoc, 1993 –**

A database providing access to the British Library's electronic table of contents of current journals and conference proceedings.

### **Review Articles**

Finding a journal article which reviews work published on a particular subject can be most helpful. Some excellent examples of review journals in Chemistry are:

*Chemical Reviews* (QD4.C47)

*Accounts of Chemical Research* (QD4.A49)

*Chemical Society Reviews* (QD4.C56)

These are all available in electronic format.

### **Internet Resources**

Some useful chemistry websites are:

<http://www.acs.org>

<http://www.rsc.org>

<http://www.chemspider.com>

<http://www.webelements.com/index.html>

<http://neon.chem.ox.ac.uk/vrchemistry/>

<http://www.organic-chemistry.org/>

<http://www.liv.ac.uk/Chemistry/Links/links.html>