

Instructions for using CALM: Computer Assisted Learning Method

Accessing the CALM program

Use a computer with either Netscape 5 (or higher) or Microsoft Internet Explorer 5.0 (or higher). Such computers can be found in CH046 or CH006 in the Chemistry Building as well as elsewhere on campus. You can also dial in from home if you have access to the Internet and one of the above browsers. People in the past have also successfully used America Online to connect (and its browser "Webcrawler").

The remainder of the instructions assume you are using Netscape.

Start Netscape and choose the Open button from the button bar or choose Open Location from the choices under File in the menu. Now enter the address for the CALM program:

<http://chemlearn.chem.indiana.edu>

Now select CALM by clicking on the button CALM Homework System. You will now be presented with a screen that presents you with a choice of courses. Select the course that you are enrolled in. You will now be presented with the main menu for the CALM program.

Logging into the program – Reporting Problems


Now enter your UITS Username and password. If you do not have a UITS Username you must get one before proceeding and you must notify the Chemistry Instructional Support Office (CH021) of your username.

Your password is your social security number entered without hyphens. If you are unable to successfully proceed beyond this point, then contact either your instructor or the Instructional Support Office immediately. **There is a link to a trouble report page on the CALM menu bar at the top of each screen. Fill out the form completely with the requested information and we will respond to the request as soon as possible – usually within 24 hours – some problems may take longer to fix.**

Selecting a Topic and Section

At this point you are presented with a selection of Topics in a menu tree. Let's suppose you want to work a problem in Topic 18. Click on Topic 18 and the menu tree will expand showing a list of sections in Topic 18. Only sections with a green or yellow **[+]** have problems in them. A section with a yellow **[+]** in front of it means that the problems in that section can no longer be done for credit, because their deadline has already passed. A section with a green **[+]** in front means that there are still active problems within that section.

Picking a problem to work

After clicking on a section, the tree should expand to show a list of problems. Each problem should have a green, yellow or black LED  next to it. By hovering your cursor over it, you can find out when it will (or has) expire. The green LED means that the problem has been assigned and can be done for credit. A yellow LED means that the problem has been assigned but can no longer be done for credit. A black LED means that the problem has not been assigned. If the problem has a checkmark **✓**, then it has already been successfully graded. Select the desired problem by clicking on it with your mouse. You are now presented with a screen containing the problem. At the top left of the screen is the problem ID for this particular problem. **You must write down the problem ID exactly as it is on the screen (leading/trailing 0's in the ID are important and must be entered) if you wish to be able to recall this particular problem at a later date. Also, avoid any spaces at the beginning or end of the number (IE. as result of copying and pasting), otherwise the problem ID will not work correctly and it will use your previous problem ID.**

Answer the problem as requested and press Push Me. This action results in your answer being graded. You are notified in the next screen whether you have correctly answered the question. If you were correct, you are given a "Push Me" button that will take you back to the menu tree where you can select another problem. If you have not answered the problem correctly, simply select BACK in your browser and try again.

View Grades

To find out how many problems you have completed out of the total, scroll to the bottom of the menu tree. There you will see your score. It will appear in this format:

"Total Problems Available: (# of problems in the class) -- Total Problems Completed: (# of problems graded)"

To view the problems that still need to be done, click on the **[+]** next to "Topic" at the top of the menu tree. That will expand the menu tree entirely, showing you the problems that have not been completed yet. The completed problems will have a checkmark next to them.

Contact

If you have difficulty, contact the Chemistry Instructional Support Office using the CALM trouble report. There is a link to the report on the CALM menu bar located at the top of each page.

FORMATTING ANSWERS

There are a couple of conventions that you must use when responding to CALM questions.

Capitalization:

Capitalization rules must be followed when entering answers into CALM. For example, suppose the answer to a question is looking for the abbreviation for sodium, the correct response is "Na" not "na".

Significant Figures:

In answering questions requiring calculations, you must include the appropriate number of significant figures.

Scientific Notation:

The number 1.243×10^{-23} would be entered into CALM much like you would enter it into a calculator. The following would be acceptable to CALM: 1.243E-23 or 1.243E-023. If one format does not work, try the other – some questions require 3 digits in the exponent to be recognized as correct.

Nuclear Chemistry Questions:

Questions asking for isotopes and particles expect to see the isotope listed first followed by the particle or decay product.