

UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Environmental Physical Chemistry

2122-2-F7501Q051

Aims

To treat the main physical-chemical aspects related to the equilibrium distribution of compounds in various environmental compartments and extend the thermodynamic discussion to the study of non-equilibrium systems, in order to use the knowledge gained for the treatment of environmental systems.

Laboratory experiences will integrate the arguments discussed during the course.

Knowledge and understanding
Applying knowledge and understanding
Making judgements
Communication skills

Learning skills
Contents
Partitioning equilibria; Environmental thermodynamics; Transport processes
Detailed program
Thermodynamics aspects of partitioning processes. Real systems: fugacity and activity coefficients. Partitioning processes: vapour and liquid-gas distribution. Activity coefficients and solubility in water. Partitioning of compounds between different environmental compartments and phases.
Transport processes
Thermodynamics of non-equilibrium systems. Thermodynamic equilibrium and stability criteria. Non- equilibrium systems: the linear regime and the stationary states. Criteria for stability of stationary states. Systems far from equilibrium and stability criteria. Dissipative structures
Prerequisites
Thermodynamic of equilibrium systems
Teaching form

Textbook and teaching resource

Lecture notes of the teacher: U. Cosentino, Chimica Fisica Ambientale

Suggested textboks

P.W. Atkins, J. de Paula Physical Chemistry, 9a edition, 2011, Oxford University Press

Rene P. Schwarzenbach, R.P, Gschwend P.M., Imboden D.M., Environmental Organic Chemistry – 2003, second edition, Wiley

D. K. Kondepudi, I. Prigogine Modern Thermodynamics: From Heat Engines to Dissipative Structures, John Wiley & Sons Inc, 1998.

Semester

First semester

Assessment method

The exam consists of:

The final grade, expressed in thirtieths with possible praise, is given by the average of the two tests.

At the request of the student, the exam can be conducted in English.

Office hours

Every day, by appointment.