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# Beyond the Chemistry Web

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**Beyond the Chemistry Web...**

Bob Buchanan, Chemistry Librarian, Auburn University



This column looks at resources for learning chemistry at the undergraduate level. These sites may be useful to students and instructors.

**Digital Lab Techniques Manual** from MIT OpenCourseWare by the Department of Chemistry is a series of seventeen videos that cover basic laboratory techniques used in freshman, organic, and analytical labs. These informative videos range from five to twenty minutes. The University of Alberta **Laboratory Techniques Videos** offers twelve short videos on basic laboratory techniques which are a bit more entertaining than those in the MIT collection. **Laboratory Technique Videos** from the College of Oneonta consists of twelve short, matter-of-fact demonstrations for freshman chemistry lab. There is some overlap in coverage between these three sites but not as much as you might imagine.

<http://ocw.mit.edu/OcwWeb/resources/RES-5-0001Spring-2007/ResourceHome/index.htm>

<http://www.chem.ualberta.ca/~orglabs/Techniques.html>

<http://employees.oneonta.edu/viningwj/videos/index.html>

The *Journal of Chemical Education* and the Multimedia Educational Resource for Learning and Online Teaching (MERLOT) have partnered to create the **Merlot Chemistry Portal**. The Learning Materials database contains nearly 700 records and is organized by instructional categories and by types of learning materials (simulations, animations, lectures, tutorials, tests, practice, and collection), but it also offers a sophisticated Advanced Search. Records found by a keyword search, or all 696 records, can be sorted by overall ranking, relevance, date added, date modified, title, or author.

<http://chemistry.merlot.org>

**Resources for Chemical Educators**

provides annotated links to instructional materials and other resources of interest to chemistry teachers and course designers. Stephen Lower, formerly a Chemistry Professor at Simon Fraser University, chooses links that he considers the most useful and exemplary Web-accessible resources. Coverage is largely, but not exclusively, at the college-level. If you look at only one web site from this column, this should be it.

<http://www.chem1.com/chemed>

**Chemistry Teaching Resources** is an extensive portal that "attempts to present a comprehensive list of chemistry teaching resources." This portal is more international in scope than the rest of this column's sites.

<http://www.anachem.umu.se/eks/pointers.htm>

**Organic Chemistry Help eMediately** is a nice site created by Thomas Poon, Chemistry Professor at the Claremont Colleges. It provides flash cards, tutorials in over 50 topics, and roughly 40 old exams with the corresponding answer key. Although designed to support the classes of one teacher at a single college, the content is standard for undergraduate organic chemistry.

<http://ochem.jsd.claremont.edu/index.htm>

Point frustrated pre-professional students taking organic chemistry to the **Electronic Organic Chemistry Flashcards** from the Ohio State Chemistry Department.

<http://www.chemistry.ohio-state.edu/organic/flashcards> ❖