

## Deepening minor Chemistry

Course Year: 2018-2019	Study: Chemistry
Date report: 14-11-2019	Interviewee: Rebecca Rodrigues de Miranda

Coordinator: Mitchell Groen

My name is Rebecca and I'm a fourth year bachelor student in Chemistry following the Smart Materials track. I did a board year at De CB in my third year which allowed me to spread my minor courses out over the year (since I knew I would have study delay anyway). I really liked the idea of doing a broad range of courses so that I would know which topics I do and don't enjoy by the end of my bachelor. For this reason I did courses from all tracks and also Chemical Engineering.

I looked on Ocasys for which courses I was interested in and most of these courses were from the physics bachelor. I went to the Academic Advisor to talk about the possibilities of doing some physics courses. There I found out that the minor courses have to be second year courses or higher (this has changed recently) which would have been nice to know beforehand. For the second year physics courses I missed background knowledge which would be crucial, so I decided not to follow physics courses. In the end I enrolled for the courses Structural Probes for Solid Materials, Medicinal Chemistry 1, Organic and Molecular Electronics, Solar cells, Green Chemistry and Technology and Single Phase reactors.

Most of these minor courses were attended during my board year, which provided me with the possibility to spread my minor courses over the entire academic year.

I chose Structural Probes for Solid Materials, Organic and Molecular Electronics and Solar Cells because these courses connected to my track (Smart Materials). Later in life, I intend to pursue a career in this field and so I wanted to deepen my knowledge regarding this track.

Medicinal Chemistry 1 and Green Chemistry and Technology were chosen because I thought these courses were interesting and I would enjoy them, not because I thought they would be necessary for my career.

The course Single Phase Reactors was chosen because I had to follow one more course and this course would fit best in my schedule.

The courses related to the Smart Materials track discussed a lot of the (electrical) properties of materials, especially about solar cells. The course Organic and Molecular Electronics had a strong connection with the course Solar Cells. With Solar Cells you learned to think more like a physicist and I became able to understand things without being able to see it. You can hardly visualize it, but you have to be able to do it. These courses were challenging, for Solar Cells it was very handy to have preliminary knowledge obtained from the Smart Materials track.

With Green Chemistry and Technology, you looked at how to make certain processes greener, it had a sort of Chemical Engineering vibe to it. In Medicinal Chemistry 1, I looked at how to start with the drug processing process and how drugs are able to target specific groups. You were evaluating drugs on the computer and this way checking if they work. I had a lot of fun doing these courses.

For the Course Single Phase Reactors, you really learned more basic knowledge about reactors from the Chemical Engineering bachelor.

All in all I chose a very broad minor, but if you know exactly which topics interest you I wouldn't be afraid to choose a more specific minor. Hopefully this summary helped you, good luck in choosing your own courses!