Level: bachelor

Course title: Basics of physical chemistry of surfaces

Status: elective

ECTS: 6

Requirements: none

Learning objectives

Introduction to processes at the phase boundaries, with special emphasis on the solid /liquid interface. Student will gain fundamental knowledge about thermodynamic analysis of surfaces and basic experimental skills for characterisation of surface processes which are important for understanding numerous environmental and adsorption-catalytic processes.

Learning outcomes

After the successful completion of the course, the student is able to: understand the processes at the surfaces and interfaces; understands modern thermodynamic interpretations of various surface phenomena; apply different instrumental, especially spectroscopic methods in explaining surface phenomena; conduct equilibrium and kinetic experiments in the characterization of solid surfaces.

Syllabus

Theoretical instruction

The liquid / gas interface. Surface tension of liquids and solutions. Surface tension of surfactant solutions. Experimental methods of surface tension measurements. Surface tension and surface free energy. Gibbs adsorption isotherms. Surface films. Adsorption of gases and vapors on solids. The solid-liquid interface – adsorption from solution. Capillary phenomena. Physical and chemical adsorption. Enthalpy of adsorption. Equilibrium and kinetics of adsorption process. Adsorption isotherms. Methods of solid surface characterization. Ion exchange.

Practical instruction

The experimental part of the course follows theoretical part.

Weekly teaching load				Other:
Lectures: 3	Exercises: 2	Other forms of teaching:	Student research:	