

# Check Out the Quality of Instructors at Centralia College



Meet Associate  
Professor Dr. Ruby  
Nagelkerke

**Are you interested in?**  
Laboratory experiments  
Solving mysteries  
Inventing new things

**Maybe you should consider becoming a  
Chemist.**



**Would you like to be a Research Chemist for:**

- Environmental product production
- Petroleum exploration
- Pharmaceutical company
- Biochemical design
- Chemical Engineer
- Doctor
- Nurse
- Pharmacist
- Forensic investigator
- Science professor

**Then you should consider taking chemistry!**

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## Meet Chemistry Associate Professor Dr. Ruby Nagelkerke

Dr. Ruby as she is known came to Centralia College from Canada.

Her education:

Bachelor of Science with Honors from Simon Fraser University near Vancouver, Canada

PhD in Chemistry from Queen's University, Ontario, Canada

Attended University of Oxford as a visiting professor while doing computational research for her PhD

Post-doctoral research at University of Washington

Special interests are computational chemistry and the chemistry of batteries. She also focuses on chemistry education and collecting "lame chemistry jokes".

Teaching experience includes both Queen's University as well as University of Washington while working on her Ph.D. Centralia College Faculty since 1996

## What do students say about Dr. Ruby's classes?

"Wow, I hated the thought of taking chemistry, but Dr. Ruby made it all seem like we were solving mysteries. It was enjoyable."

"I enjoyed Dr. Ruby's classes so much, I changed my career plans. After I finish my AA, I'm going to transfer to UW and major in chemistry."

## Salary

### So what kind of money does a chemist make?

Depending on whether you work for a public institution or in private industry your salary will vary. With a BS degree it could be as low as \$36,000 or range upward to \$54,000 with an average in the mid \$40,000.

### Career possibilities:

With additional education, the salaries continue to increase.

Possible career choices include:

- Doctor, nurse, dentist, anesthetist,
- Environmental emphasis such as research
- Working for city governments monitoring water and air
- Medical research
- Product research
- Petroleum research
- Teaching
- And many, many more

## Big Brains are In !!!

The state-of-the art science center will be ready for classes Fall Quarter 2009!

(Check out the building progress on the website ([www.centralia.edu](http://www.centralia.edu)))

Along with this facility, you will also have great instructors like Dr. Ruby Nagelkerke.

## Old School? Not This School!

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math)

Some interesting information about Dr. Ruby: Her research experience includes working for Ballard energy developing lithium batteries and fuel cells. She also helped develop analytical chemical procedures for Petro-Canada, one of Canada's petroleum companies. Her first job was cleaning glassware in a research lab while she finished high school.

However, Dr. Ruby is also interested in scrapbooking and beading jewelry. Plus, she enjoys creating origami mobiles.



Centralia College

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