The course covers the essential chemical databases and search engines available at EPFL. New PhD students will acquire the skills to efficiently use these tools and the chemical literature, and apply these skills to their own research topics.

Content
Information sources and services at EPFL (1h)
- scientific publications: articles, book, patents, reports, theses, databases
- using the scientific literature: online and offline access, document delivery...

Text searching (2h)
- understanding and designing search queries
- practical article searching using Scifinder

Chemical searching (3h)
- searching for chemical structures, reactions and properties using Scifinder, Reaxys, Chemspider and the Cambridge Structural Database

Note
Next session: November 2017 (spread dates)

Keywords
Bibliographic databases
Chemical information

Learning Prerequisites
Important concepts to start the course
General information literacy topics are addressed by other EPFL Library PhD modules (Web of Science & other databases, citation management, Open Access...)

Learning Outcomes
By the end of the course, the student must be able to:
• Select appropriately a tool for a given information search
• Use this tool to locate the desired information
• Use the available library and IT services to access this information

Assessment methods
Personal report on searches relevant to PhD projects

Resources
Bibliography

Ressources en bibliothèque
• Information retrieval: SciFinder / Ridley
• Chemical information for chemists / Currano