



**Department of Chemistry**  
**Faculty of Science / University of Peradeniya**



## Dr. Sampath B. Alahakoon

*B.Sc. (Perad.), Ph.D. (UT Dallas, USA)*

### Senior Lecturer

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## About Me

I am currently a Senior Lecturer in Chemistry at the Department of Chemistry, University of Peradeniya. With a strong foundation in both teaching and research, I have dedicated my academic career to advancing the field of chemistry while guiding and inspiring the next generation of scientists. I earned my Ph.D. in Chemistry from the University of Texas at Dallas, USA in 2018, where I focused on developing functional porous polymers such as covalent organic frameworks (COFs) and metal-organic frameworks (MOFs) targeting applications. Following this, I completed my postdoctoral training at UT Dallas and Rice University in Houston, USA, where I expanded my expertise in developing functional 2D polymers for high-strength applications, e.g., bulletproof materials. I have had the privilege of publishing my work in several prestigious peer-reviewed journals, e.g., *Journal of the American Chemical Society*. My research interests now include developing biopolymer-based functional materials for water purification and converting waste into useful materials. In the classroom, I am committed to fostering an engaging and inclusive environment that promotes deep understanding and critical thinking in chemistry. My teaching philosophy emphasizes the importance of hands-on learning and the practical application of theoretical knowledge, which I believe are crucial for students' academic and professional development. Outside of academia, I enjoy staying with family, playing musical instruments, and cooking, which provides balance and a broader perspective on life.

## Higher Education Qualifications



**PhD**

The University of Texas, Dallas  
USA  
(2018)



**BSc**

University of Peradeniya  
Sri Lanka  
(2013)

## Awards, Scholarships, Memberships & Fellowships












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## Positions Held

-  Graduate Teaching/Research Assistant: The University of Texas at Dallas, USA- (2013 August - 2018 August)
-  Postdoctoral Research Associate: The University of Texas at Dallas, USA- (2018 August - 2019 November)
-  Postdoctoral Research Associate: Rice University, Houston, USA- (2019 December - 2021 February)
-  Senior Lecturer in Chemistry: General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University- (2021 March - 2023 July)
-  Faculty Coordinator, Basic and Applied Sciences Session: KDU-IRC 2022- (2022)
-  Visiting Lecturer in Chemistry: Department of Chemistry, University of Peradeniya- (2023 March - 2023 July)
-  Senior Lecturer in Chemistry: Department of Chemistry, University of Peradeniya- (2013 July - to date)
-  Secretary, RESCON 2024: Postgraduate Institute of Science, University of Peradeniya- (2024)
-  Co-coordinator, M.Sc. in Nanoscience and Nanotechnology : Postgraduate Institute of Science, University of Peradeniya- (2023 July - to date)
-  Temporary Demonstrator: Department of Chemistry, University of Peradeniya- (2013 February - 2013 July)

## My Teachings

-  AS434: Industrial Organic Chemistry
-  CH417: Advanced Inorganic Chemistry
-  CH426: Natural Products Chemistry
-  CHE1091: Elementary Chemistry Laboratory II
-  CHE2112: Inorganic Chemistry I
-  CHE2122: Inorganic Chemistry II
-  CHE2181: Inorganic Chemistry Laboratory I
-  CHE3192: Advanced Inorganic Chemistry Laboratory
-  CHE3512: Biological Chemistry I

## Research Interests (Research Fields/ Projects)



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## Ongoing Research and Projects



Nothing to show under this subheading !!!

## Key Publications



Nothing to show under this subheading !!!

## Conferences



Nothing to show under this subheading !!!

## My Publications

Please goto the website.

<https://sci.pdn.ac.lk/chemistry/staff/Sampath-Alahakoon>