

# Astella Leung

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## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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### New York City, DOE

Substitute Teacher, Chemistry

1/2026 – Present

- Designed engaging 10th-grade chemistry lesson plans aligned with New York State Science Learning Standards
- Successfully executed engaging lessons across various chemistry courses to classes of 24+ students.
- Implemented teacher-provided lesson plans and adapted instruction to meet student needs.

### CUNY Brooklyn College, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, Brooklyn, NY

Adjunct Lecturer, Organic Chemistry II and General Chemistry I

1/2025 – 1/2026

- Lectured and facilitated organic chemistry II and general chemistry I recitations to aid learning from students' lecture courses.
- Hosted weekly recitations, laboratory seminars, and 1-on-1 sessions for 60 undergraduate students.
- Guided 48 students through lab safety, experiment procedure, and report writing.
- Responded to the diverse needs of underserved students, working adults, and returning students.
- Crafted lesson plans, including supplemental class worksheets, quizzes, and presentations.

### Chang's Learning Center, Brooklyn, NY

9/2021 – 8/2023

Science Educator

- Facilitated over 200 hours of individual science and math tutoring, tailoring lessons to each student's learning style and resulting in an average exam grade increase of 25%.
- Coordinated hands-on science projects independently for a class of students based on daily lesson plans to provide exploration and understanding of science principles.
- Assisted lead teacher with curriculum development, assessments, classroom exercises, and homework.
- Administered lessons for a Title 1 Parent SAT Workshops at Fort Hamilton High School.

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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### CUNY Brooklyn College, Brooklyn, NY

Research Assistant, Professor Ryan P. Murelli & Andrzej A. Jarzecki

1/2024 – 1/2026

- Synthesized fluorophores through multi-step organic synthesis, flash chromatography, and H-NMR spectroscopy.
- Modeled over 40 reactions using DFT calculations to assess stereochemical and regiochemical preferences in intermolecular oxidopyrylium ylide dimerizations and cycloadditions.
- Designed figures and supporting information documents to summarize the results of dimerization studies for future publications.
- Investigated the stability of azabicyclic transition states with inverted methylenes during the Walk rearrangement through computational DFT studies.

## EDUCATION

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### CUNY Brooklyn College, Brooklyn, NY

Master of Arts in Teaching, Adolescent Science Education (7-12), **GPA:** 4.00

8/2024 – 5/2026

*Awards and Honors:* Brooklyn College Chemistry Society Renaissance Person Award

Bachelor of Arts, Chemistry, **GPA:** 4.00

8/2021 – 7/2024

*Awards and Honors:* American Chemical Society Undergraduate Award in Physical Chemistry

## SKILLS

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**Skills:** Google Suite, Microsoft Suite, Molecular Visualization, Conversational in Cantonese and Spanish