



ACS Local Section
New York
Westchester Chemical Society

THE CHEMISTRY OF TATTOOS

Speaker: Geeta Govindarajoo, Ph.D.

Teaching Professor,
Department of Chemistry and Chemical Biology,
Rutgers, State University of New Jersey

Date: Thursday, September 18, 2025

Time: Coffee Hour: 5:30 pm
Speaker: 6:00 pm

Place: Westchester Community College
75 Grasslands Road
Valhalla, NY 10595
Gateway Center, Room 110

ZOOM: This meeting will also be available online

<https://fordham.zoom.us/j/5962595219?omn=89521324753>

Event is free of charge

Please contact Peter Corfield at pcorfield@fordham.edu to RSVP for the meeting or if you have any questions.

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THE CHEMISTRY OF TATTOOS

Abstract:

Tattoos – adornment; a mechanism of personal expression; medical device? Let us explore the chemistry behind tattoo inks (temporary and permanent) along with science behind the process and risks of obtaining a tattoo. How much does skin mimic the properties of a linen or cotton canvas? Chemistry comes into play again in the removal process (ouch!) of tattoos. The potential of tattoos as medical devices and the impact of tattooing on the human immune response will also be discussed.

Biography:

Professor Geeta Govindarajoo is a Teaching Professor in the Department of Chemistry and Chemical Biology at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey and has taught various chemistry courses for almost 27 years. During this time, she has sought to employ innovations and carried out research projects in Chemistry Education while teaching. She originated and developed the “Chemistry of Art” course that is taught at Rutgers University after being inspired by an art forger’s autobiography to research the interplay of chemistry and art. She earned a B.S. in Chemistry and Biology, and then a Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry in 1998 from the University of California, Irvine.

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