

WELCOME TO CHEMISTRY! This course is designed to present a variety of scientific concepts in the field of Chemistry. The course is very mathematically orientated, and will use a quantitative as well as a qualitative approach. It will integrate classroom presentations with hands-on laboratory activities.

My class emphasizes active student-centered learning. My primary goal is to encourage thinking and doing rather than simply recalling facts.

MATERIALS. The materials you will need to bring to class every day include: your homework, a writing utensil, a red grading pen, a calculator, college-ruled loose leaf paper, and your science notebook.

GRADING. Grades will be based on a total point value weighted system consisting of:

Tests and Quizzes: The majority of grades will be from tests and quizzes (50%). There is a final exam at the end of each semester (10%).

Labs: Labs are fundamental to learning and studying chemistry. Therefore, your preparation for labs (such as homework) is extremely important. Lab grades consist of lab quizzes, lab reports and/or data sheets, and participation points for doing the activities. For grading, everybody starts with an "A". Points will be taken off for poor technique, incomplete write-ups, or coming to class unprepared. **For the safety of everyone, inappropriate behavior during labs IS NOT tolerated.** If you are removed from a lab for misbehavior or safety violations, you will receive a zero for the lab, and no make-up will be provided.

Homework and Classwork: Homework and Classwork is essential for understanding the material presented in class and material found on quizzes and tests. Notes are given with each chapter, and homework and classwork are assigned every day. Homework needs to be completed on loose leaf paper and will be graded on a regular basis. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that he or she understands the problems assigned and answers given on homework. All assignments must be completed by the date due for full credit. However, credit will not be recorded for these assignments until the homework packet is turned in at the end of each unit (test day). You must turn in your completed cover sheet to receive credit for checked assignments. No cover page = no credit. Scores will also include the full solution of two random problems and guided reading workbooks. Bonus points can be received for class corrections in a different color pen.

Lab Techniques and Participation: The participation will be **my evaluation** of the extent to which you have done your homework regularly, come prepared for class, cooperated in class activities, performed during laboratory periods, and similar considerations.

Late Homework/Labs/Projects: Daily homework assignments will only be accepted one day late for half credit. Larger assignments that are late will lose one letter grade for every day it is late. ***I consider work late if you do not turn it in when I collect it.*** It is your responsibility to turn in all makeup and late assignments.

ABSENCES. *Making up work that you missed due to absence for any reason is your responsibility.*

TESTS - If you miss a test or quiz due to an excused absence, you need to be prepared to take the test the **first day** you return to class. No extra time will be given for makeup tests. Generally, make-ups are harder than the original test because there will not be an extra credit option and there are more specific questions from your reading.

HOMEWORK – (see above for late homework)

LABS - If a lab is missed **for any reason**, a grade of a zero will be recorded for the lab work as well as the participation points. The lab report/calculations may be made up for full credit, but the participation points may not. You are responsible for taking the lab quiz as well. You have the option of completing an online alternative assignment to make up the participation points that you missed. This will be your responsibility to complete and turn in your work.

HONOR CODE. Exhibit a personal code of honor by *taking responsibility* for your work, performance, and understanding the course content. An honor violation is a very serious offense. Any act of lying, cheating, or stealing is considered an offense and immediate reporting will take place. Copying **homework**, classwork, quizzes, or tests is considered cheating. (See the Academic Dishonesty Policy in your Time Tracker).

I encourage you to work with the other members of this class on classwork and homework. This should entail *discussing ideas* and *helping* each other come up with ideas. The work turned in should be your own, but if you received help, just denote the names of those who assisted. Under no circumstances should one partner simply copy what another has done, this includes one partner creating a series of data tables and graphs on the computer then printing copies for everyone else.

EXPECTATIONS.

Be Prompt. Be in your assigned seat with your homework turned in, quietly working on the warm-up by the time the bell rings or you will be marked tardy. If you are not in the classroom before the bell rings, you will need to go to the office for a readmit late slip.

Follow directions.

Do not eat or drink in class.

Learn and follow group and laboratory rules.

Be Prepared.

Come to class with all materials and your completed assignments. You will not be allowed to go out to your locker to get any of these items after class has begun.

Learning can not occur if you are roaming the halls. Therefore, leaving during class is discouraged. If you need to leave, you must use an available restroom pass during your own work time, or when your work is finished, not during lecture or when you are involved in group work. No passes the first or last 10 minutes of class. Please, be responsible.

If you are absent, it is your responsibility to find out what assignments you missed by checking the calendar posted in class or my web page.

CONSEQUENCES. If at any time a student's behavior is unacceptable, the following consequences will apply:

- 1st Offense, teacher reprimand/verbal warning
- 2nd Offense, removal from class activity
- 3rd Offense, parent notification and detention
- 4th Offense, long form behavior referral

Severe misbehavior calls for an immediate removal from the classroom.