

Chemistry – Syllabus 2011-2012

Instructor: Ms. Diakoff

Office Hours: by appointment

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Goals of this Course

I hope that you will learn chemistry by taking this course. Perhaps more importantly, I hope that you will learn to think like a scientist and will begin to understand the richness of science in the world around you each day.

Course Material

Semester I

Unit	Topics
I	Matter
II	History of Atomic Structure
III	Atoms, Ions, Periodic Table
IV	Naming Compounds
V	Reactions & Product Prediction
VI	More Reactions & Product Prediction
VII	Taking Measurements

Semester II

Unit	Topics
VIII	Stoichiometry
IX	Energy
X	Electrons
XI	Orbitals & Electron Configurations
XII	Lewis Structures & Geometries
XIII	Liquids & Mixtures
XIV	Gases
XV	Nuclear & Electrochem

Required Materials

Composition Notebook (no other kind of notebook is acceptable!)

Pens or pencils in a wide variety of colors

Glue Stick

Calculator (TI-83 preferred)

Textbook (see below for more information)

Classroom Rules

1. Be attentive and alert in class.
2. Be respectful to others.
3. Be helpful to your classmates.
4. You may not eat, chew gum, or drink anything other than water in class. You may not have food in class.
5. You are allowed five bathroom passes per semester. BATHROOM PASSES ARE NON-TRANSFERABLE.
6. Follow all school rules.

Textbooks

Write your name in your textbook, and my name, on the inside front cover. This will prove to be very helpful when you misplace it.

You must bring your textbook to class. I may do a periodic book check. (1 point).

If you want to arrange to alternate books with your desk partner, make a schedule and turn it in to me.

Chemistry – Syllabus 2011-2012

Evaluations

- **Final Exam: 20% of overall grade.**

- **Unit Tests**
 - o 100 points each; approximately 50% of overall grade
 - o There will be 6-7 Unit Tests each semester
 - o Each unit is 8-15 class days long. We will schedule each Unit Test for a few days after the end of lecture on each unit (we will continue on with new material in the meantime); this gives you more study time and allows for more flexibility in test scheduling.

- **Quizzes**
 - o 10 points each; approximately 10% of overall grade
 - o Quizzes are given every 2-3 class periods.
 - o The quizzes are one or two questions, pertain to the material from the previous week, and take 5-10 minutes.
 - o Sometimes the questions are straight from the homework.

- **Labs & Demonstrations**
 - o Labs & Demonstration discussions are completed in the interactive notebook
 - They are graded along with other homework assignments
 - o We do about 10 formal labs during the school year; we do many informal lab exercises and demonstrations on an ongoing basis

- **Homework**
 - o 1 point/page; some output pages may be worth more than others (lab write-ups, for example)
 - o Homework is assigned every night and is almost always completed in the interactive notebook.
 - o When an assignment is given, it is due the next class period unless specifically stated otherwise. I will spot-check for completion on a regular basis.
 - o The homework is graded when I collect the notebooks at the end of each unit.
 - o I grade the assignments for completion, effort, and (for problems) whether they are correct!

Chemistry – Syllabus 2011-2012

Interactive Notebook

Homework is due every day, and is done in the interactive notebook (more about this in class). If problems are assigned that night, they are to be completed in the output section of the notebook. If no problems are assigned, you may complete the output section as follows:

- Find and print pictures/illustrations/diagrams that pertain to the topic & label them
- Drawing a picture & writing a caption about the picture
- Doing a Concept map with detailed connecting phrases
- Creating Graphs and Charts (Bubble maps, pie charts, Venn diagrams, Bar graphs, etc)
- Writing a paragraph that explains the information in a new way...relating the information to yourself or something you have learned before.
- Find a current event or new information that relates to the input...(use the internet, newspapers, magazines or even the Discovery Channel!)
- Write a reflection stating opinion about a controversy
- Super Creative:
 - o Comic strips
 - o Advertisements
 - o Story, poems and song lyrics
 - o Book or CD case cover
 - o Eulogies of scientists
 - o Inserts: Photographs, newspaper/magazine clippings, etc
 - o Foldables and pop-ups
 - o Your own experiment!!

Absences & Make-up work

- When you are absent, IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to get the notes from a classmate in a timely fashion and for staying on top of the material. Your interactive notebook must be updated (both input and output) no later than ONE DAY after you return from an absence. In the event of an extended absence (more than three days) you may see me upon your return to discuss extending this deadline.
- It is your responsibility to contact me to schedule make-up tests, labs, or other assignments that you miss when you are absent. This must be done in a timely fashion or you may receive a zero for the assignment.
- Quizzes cannot be made up. If you are absent on one of these days, you will be excused from the quiz.
- If you are absent on a day when I spot-check homework, you are excused from the spot-check. You must still complete the assignment for collection at the end of the unit.

I have read and understand the syllabus:

Student Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____