

## Syllabus: Chemistry

### Course Description

Chemistry is an introductory course to the study of matter and its interaction with other matter and energy. The course provides students with exposure to both the knowledge and laboratory skills related to chemistry, and includes the history surrounding many of the major discoveries that have contributed to the science of chemistry. Course content includes a review of the scientific method; preparation of written lab reports; measurement of matter; metric conversions and dimensional analysis; classification of matter; atomic structure; the Periodic Table; chemical compounds; types of chemical reactions; chemical equations; the mole concept; stoichiometry; molecular geometry; solutions; gases and gas laws; acids and bases; energy and thermodynamics; kinetics; redox reactions; and equilibrium. Homework will average 3 - 5 hours per week.

### Attendance and Participation

Both attendance and participation are vital parts of this course; therefore, students are required to attend class sessions and participate actively in discussions. Students are expected to view archives of any missed classes, and are responsible for obtaining any notes or assignments.

Students will be given quarterly grades for both participation and attendance:

- Fifteen percent of the final grade will be attributed to *relevant class participation*. This includes raising one's hand, commenting regularly via microphone/webcam, and using the chat box regularly to contribute to the academic conversation.
- Five percent of the final grade will be attributed to *class attendance*. Being present, being on time, and readiness for class are all factors to be considered in the class attendance grade. *Excused* absences will not detrimentally impact attendance grades.

Grading rubrics are located in the Course Documents folder in each course page.

### Assignments & Exams

Students are responsible for reading assigned material *before* the class period in which it is discussed. Quizzes will be assigned at the end of each chapter. Exams will be given over a set of chapters.

Laboratory investigations and experiments are very important. It is important that students complete these. A lab notebook should be maintained as a record of the laboratory exercises completed. These will be completed at home, though they will be discussed in class. Each quarter, student will submit written lab reports from the lab notebook they have kept.

Students will take a semester exam at the end of the first semester and one at the end of the second semester. The exam at the end of the second semester will focus on material discussed during that semester, but inclusion of the basic principles taught during the first semester is unavoidable since second semester material is built on the principles taught during the first semester.

All exams should be taken in one sitting and proctored by an adult. Unless directed by the teacher, students are not permitted to use any helps, books, notes or the Internet on any portion of exams. All exams are due at 11:55 PM ET on the date shown. Specific instructions will be provided by the instructor.

### **Evaluation**

The final grade is determined on the following basis:

- |                                |     |
|--------------------------------|-----|
| ● Class Attendance             | 5%  |
| ● Relevant Class Participation | 15% |
| ● Homework                     | 5%  |
| ● Labs                         | 20% |
| ● Quizzes                      | 15% |
| ● Exams                        | 20% |
| ● Midterm/Final Assessment     | 20% |

### **Grading Scale**

The following grading scale will apply for all assignments and final grades. 100% – 90% = A; 89% - 80% = B; 79% - 70% = C; 69% - 60% = D; 59% - 50% = E; 49% - 40% = F. All grades are rounded to the nearest whole number.

### **Late Work**

If a student fails to submit any assessment by the due date, it is considered "late."

- Assignments submitted 0-24 hours late will result in a 10 point reduction off earned grade.
- Assignments submitted 24-48 hours late will result in a 20 point reduction off earned grade.
- Assignments submitted 48-72 hours late will result in a 30 point reduction off earned grade.
- Assignments over 72 hours late will not be accepted and the student will receive a zero.
- Parent may request an extension from their child's teacher *prior to the due date* or in the case of an emergency.

While we love grace and the opportunity to exercise it, we also desire to instill a sound sense of responsibility in our students, hence these expectations pertaining to late work.

### **Exam/Test Retakes**

Any student may retake a failed assessment (except quizzes), but can score no higher than 70% on the retake. Retakes must be submitted within one week of the returned, failed test. If the retake is not submitted within one week, the original failing grade will stand.

### **Academic Dishonesty**

Cheating on any assignment is considered academic dishonesty. This includes plagiarism in any form. Cheating will be dealt with in the following manner:

- If a student is caught cheating, he will receive a zero on the assignment and will be placed on academic probation for the remainder of the school year.
- If the same student is caught cheating again, he will likely be expelled.
- No refunds will be granted for students who are expelled due to cheating.
- A Disciplinary Action Form will be submitted by the student's teacher for any instance of academic dishonesty.

### **Textbooks/Materials**

The books needed for the class can be purchased through Veritas Press. It is extremely important that the student has the correct version/edition of these materials.

Veritas Press Chemistry (000870)

- The text for the course is an ebook.
- A virtual lab kit (included in the price of the class).

### **Course Calendar**

See Course Assignment Sheet, located on course page, for class dates, breaks and all assignments and assessments. Class dates and breaks can also be found on the current academic year calendar.