

Chemistry 2016-2017 Syllabus

Teacher: Ms. Ward

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Remind101: @chemward to 81010

Location: Room 1335/1337

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Weebly: <http://wardlhs.weebly.com>

I. Course Description/Overview:

Welcome to Chemistry! I am very excited to have you in this class for the 2016-2017 school year. The class will focus on a variety of teaching methods like: lecture, demos, labs, etc. The overall goal of this course is to make you a knowledgeable citizen in the realm of science.

To be in chemistry you must have met the following prerequisites:

-freshmen currently taking Geometry/Algebra II

-have passed Biology

Strongly recommended:

- C or better in Algebra I

II. Course Content:

- Topics studied in chemistry include measurement, unit conversion, classification of matter, properties of matter, energy, specific heat capacity, the history of the atom, isotopes, the structure of the atom (Bohr model, quantum mechanics), electromagnetic radiation, quantum numbers, electron configuration, valence electrons, the periodic table, periodic trends, ions, compound nomenclature, introductory organic chemistry (nomenclature, structures), stoichiometry, the mole, chemical reactions/equations, acid-base chemistry, basic chemical bonding, intermolecular forces, and gases.
- Reading/Writing requirements
 - i. Outlines of chapters
 - ii. In-class reading and writing assignments
 - iii. SAT prep
- Course calendar/schedule outline
 - i. semester projects are handed out many weeks prior to completion
 - ii. labs occur every week and a half to two weeks
 - iii. homework is a nightly occurrence
 - iv. quizzes take place weekly unless otherwise specified by instructor

III. Guidelines for Success:

To be successful in the Chemistry classroom attendance is major component. We move along at a rather quick pace. When a topic or two are missed, it becomes very difficult to catch up. In addition, students should be willing to ask for help when needed and come in for tutoring when they feel they are struggling. After school availability is listed on the pink board in the classroom. I am also in the building early every morning. When I am here, I am willing to help any student with any questions they might have.

Students are required to have a binder for this class. The requirements for the binder are listed below. There will be a binder check within the first few weeks of school so please set this up as soon as possible. There will also be binder checks on most test days and at the end of the quarter. I do have extra binders in the classroom if the materials are not able to be bought.

- 2" – 3" three-ring binder (preferably with a cover sleeve)
- Binder tabs labeled in this order:
Notes 1st quarter, Notes 2nd quarter, Quizzes, Homework, Labs, Misc (at semester Notes 3 and 4 will take the place of 1 and 2)
 - The first thing in your binder should be a periodic table (provided by me) followed by the safety contract
- A cover which has *your name, class name, hour, and teacher name* on it
- Do not pull paper from a notebook and put in the binder! Use loose leaf paper only
- Pencil AND pen at all times. You may purchase these from me as well if you do not have them.

IV. **Classroom Rules:**

On a daily basis the following rules will be followed in the classroom. When it is a lab day, the safety contract will also be enforced:

Eating and Drinking in the Classroom:

Please do NOT bring food or drinks (except for water) into the classroom during class periods. Students who arrive in the classroom with open food and/or drink will be asked to take it back to their lockers or dispose of it in the trash can (NOT THE SINKS!) If the sinks become trashed, classes will get the opportunity to clean them out.

Leaving the Classroom:

As the teacher is legally responsible for all students during class, no student is to leave the classroom without permission once class has started. If an emergency arises there is a sign out sheet on the door. Students shall sign out when they leave and sign back in when they return.

Electronic Devices:

Responsible use of electronic devices will be employed in this class. We will use devices for calculators from time to time, as well as research assistance for some projects. However, on a daily basis phones should be out of sight and not in use unless instructed. Also, the classroom is not your personal docking station. Please do not use the lab station outlets to charge your phone. The charger will be confiscated.

V. **Activities:**

A typical week in the chemistry classroom will consist of learning new material nearly every day. The style of the class is usually notes and/or activities, some time to practice what has been taught, and then a short time at the end to start the homework that evening or to ask any questions that a student might have. Each week there will be a quiz over the material covered from the time of the last quiz. In addition, lab work will take place every week and a half to two weeks. At times, these

will be labs completely written out by the student, and at other times they will be “recipe” style labs written up by the instructor.

VII. **Grades:**

You will be assessed in multiple ways. There will be in class work, homework, test/quizzes, and lab reports. The grading scale is a traditional percentage based scale.

100%-98%	A+	89%-87%	B+	79%-77%	C+	69%-67%	D+
97%-93%	A	86%-83%	B	76%-73%	C	66%-63%	D
92%-90%	A-	82%-80%	B-	72%-70%	C-	62%-60%	
59% or lower	E						

The overall final grade for the class is determined by:

First Semester: 40% Second Semester: 40% Final Exam: 20%

The breakdown of daily work is determined by (may be changed pending Board action as the year progresses):

Homework: 10% Classwork: 15% Assessments: 50% Labs: 25%

(The lowest lab score, per quarter, will be dropped. Student is still responsible for lab information on any quiz or exam)

Classroom Procedures:

I. **Entering the Classroom:**

Upon entering the classroom, students should find their seat, turn in the homework for the night before in the assigned basket, and begin working on the warm up for that day if there is one on the board. The student must be in their seat by the time the bell rings and the door is shut. If a student is not in class when the bell rings they can knock on the door and wait quietly and patiently until they are allowed in the classroom. (They will be considered tardy if they do not have a pass)

On lab days, the student should enter the classroom and put their bag on the back counter, away from the laboratory area. Then they can take out their lab report, and start getting ready for the lab. This would involve getting goggles and aprons and getting the pre-lab signed by the instructor.

II. **Tardy to Class:**

Tardies are not being the class when the bell rings. This also means if you are not in class when the door is shut. This follows the LHS attendance policy. If you accumulate excess tardies you will be disciplined. If you are not tardy for an entire quarter, you earn extra points on the quarter grade.

Passes are only written for extreme emergencies so don't ask for one unless it's such. You have three emergency passes a quarter for this reason. Once these are used, you will have no more. If you can go all quarter without using a pass, you earn extra credit points on the quarter grade

III. **Paper/Pencil:**

Students should come to class each day with their binder, textbook, pen, pencil, and paper. As the year goes along, a calculator will also become necessary. I recommend the Texas Instruments TI 30xA. If a student does not have paper, some will be provided in class. If a student does not have a writing utensil, they are able to be purchased from the instructor for a quarter. There will be periodic binder checks during the year. Failure to have a binder organized on these days will result in a zero for that grade.

IV. **How to Find Out What the Daily Assignments Are:**

A list of assignments is always kept up to date on the calendar located on the front board. This is updated every day. When a student is absent they can look at this and see what they have missed. For lab reports or semester ending projects, the assignment and its requirements are handed out in advance.. For semester ending projects the requirements are handed out multiple weeks in advance.

Students and parents/guardians are also invited to join Ms. Ward on Remind101 texts. This site will be kept up to date with assignments and class information. The information needed to sign up for this site is at the top of the syllabus.

Mrs. Ward is also working on a Weebly site for this year. It will be updated as much as possible, reflecting the goings on in class. The address for the Weebly is located at the top of the syllabus.

V. **Turning in Assignments:**

To turn in assignments, students will deposit work in the in box near the front door. This is emptied after every hour.

VI. **Returning Assignments to Students:**

Once work is graded it is returned to each student's file folder in the back of the classroom.

VII. **Finding Out Grade Status:**

My grades are usually up to date each day, unless it is a lab report. The lab report grades will take longer to enter into PowerSchool. However, this means that when students check their PowerSchool grade, is up to date for that day. If they have any questions about a grade they are welcome to approach me during passing time or before or after school and discuss the issue. Class time is not the appropriate moment to ask a grading question.

VIII. **Student Responsibilities After An Absence:**

If a student is absent they are required to make up the work that was missed. If the absence is EXCUSED:

The student should first look at the assignment sheet near the door to see what was missed. Then they are to look in our folder of past assignments to get a copy. Once this is done, they have as many days as they were absent to turn the work in. For instance, if they were absent two days, they have two days from their return to submit the work. If a lab was missed, the student

will need to set up a time to make this up with me before or after school within a WEEK of the absence. If a quiz was missed, the student will need to set up a time to make this up with me before or after school within a WEEK of the absence.

If the absence was UNEXCUSED:

The student can still make up work that was missed but will not receive full credit. The procedure to make up missed work is the same as the above procedure for EXCUSED absences. If the absence does get excused through the main office, full credit will be awarded.

IX. **Communication Procedures With Parents/Families/Guardians:**

I send out periodic emails to parents during the course of the year. To be on this list, please write your email address on the Safety Contact form that will be accompanying this syllabus. These emails will reflect upcoming assignments, school schedule issues, etc. I also welcome emails from parents and guardians. I try and respond to all written communication within 24 hours of receiving it. If you are unable to email me, please call my room at the number listed on the top of the syllabus. I will try and respond to all phone communication before/after school.

X. **Ending Class:**

The end of class is dictated by me, not the bell. I will dismiss students when they are done with the activities for that day. Please do not line up near the door in anticipation of the bell. You will be asked to sit back down.

XI. **Consequences for Classroom Rule Violations:**

If there is a violation of a CLASSROOM rule I will deal with it on a situational basis. Possible consequences for a violation could be, but are not limited to:

- change of seat
- verbal warning from teacher
- phone call/email home to parent/guardian
- written referral to the main office
 - the referral will be dealt with according to disciplinary procedure in the student handbook if this occurs

If there is a violation of a SAFETY contract rule, the student is subject to removal from the class for the rest of the year and strict disciplinary action from administration.

_____ Cut here and return to Ms. Ward by September 12th _____

Please sign and return the bottom (cut it off!), stating you agree to syllabus guidelines:

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____