

Classroom Guidelines and Expectations

Course Description:

This course is designed for those students who want a physical science class that is both practical and theoretical. The course of study is designed to cover the basic concepts of chemistry on a descriptive and quantitative level. Laboratory activities will be used to illustrate the important ideas. This course is designed to equip students with the background to understand how chemistry fits into everyday living.

Alignment to Next Generation Science Standards:

Understands and applies knowledge of: the structure of atoms, the structure and properties of matter, chemical reactions, conservation of energy, and interactions of energy and matter

Standards:

- Use the periodic table as a model to predict the relative properties of elements
- Construct and revise an explanation...simple chemical reactions based upon the outermost electrons, periodic trends, and chemical properties
- Plan and conduct an investigation...compare the structure of substances at the bulk scale...infer electrical forces
- Use mathematical evidence that atoms (mass) are conserved during a chemical reaction

Assessments:

Quiz Throughout a unit 1-3 benchmark quizzes will be given to assess student learning. They must be taken on the arranged date. Make-up quizzes will be given to those with an excused absence. **Cheating will not be tolerated and students will receive zeroes.**

Each quiz is **typically** worth 20 points. If you score 85% or higher on the quiz, it will go in as 100% in the grade book. It is **YOUR** responsibility to schedule a time to make the quiz up. **Quizzes will not be made-up during class time...you will need to schedule a time to come in and complete the quiz.**

Test Tests will be given at the end of each unit. At the end of each semester, there will be a semester exam, which will be cumulative of the semester. Second semester final will consist of a national standardized test that will encompass material from **the entire school year**. Tests must be taken on the arranged date and can only be made by those with an excused absence. **Cheating will not be tolerated and students will receive zeroes.**

Lab/Project Labs and projects are expected to be neat and legible. They **MUST** be written in your lab notebook. ***You may be in groups for labs, but you are responsible for answering the pre-lab and post-lab questions INDEPENDENTLY!*** Lab partners will be assigned at the beginning of each class.

Content to Be Covered:

Unit 0: Introduction to the Methods of Chemistry

Unit 1: Atomic Structure

Unit 2: Electrons and Periodic Behavior

Unit 3: Bonding and Molecular Structure

Unit 4: Conservation of Matter

Unit 5: Stoichiometry

Unit 6: Gases

Unit 7: Solids, Liquids, and Solutions

Unit 8: Kinetics and Thermodynamics

Instructional Strategies:

- Benchmark Quizzes
- Student-Centered Activities
- Descriptive Feedback
- Lecture/Presentation
- Individual/Group Discussion
- Rubrics for Labs and Projects

Resources:

Chemistry: Wilbraham, Staley, Matta, and Waterman; Pearson Education-Prentice Hall, Inc. 2008.

Times to Meet with Ms. Whitney:

- Before school
- 3rd Hour (located in office between B231 and B233)
- A Study (B247)
- After school

Expectations for Your Success:

Attendance: Attendance is critical in the science classroom due to the regular use of labs. If you miss a lab day, you will need to arrange a time to make the lab up. It is YOUR responsibility to find out what you may have missed while you were absent (assignments, notes).

7 unexcused or 10 total absences can result in your removal from class

Tardies: Every student is expected to be in the classroom when the bell rings. Become familiar with the tardy policy in your student handbook – it will be enforced.

7 tardies can result in your removal from class

Assignments: Assignments will be given on a daily basis. You will be responsible for following directions and completing them on time. **You will NOT receive credit for homework or in class assignments.**
(Homework/ Classwork) Homework will be handed out; it is ultimately your choice whether you complete it. If you complete the assignment, a score will be placed in the grade book. **Completing the homework WILL benefit you in the long run. Do NOT think you do not have any responsibility in this class, your test and quiz grades will be a direct reflection of the work you do on your homework!**

Rules:

- All cellphones and music players will remain **out of sight** during class time.
- Food and drink (besides water) will remain out of the classroom.
- Be respectful.** This class will work best if everyone is an active participant that is willing to share ideas but also listen to others.
- Be careful with school property and follow all laboratory rules. We will work with a variety of instruments that *can* and *will* break or hurt you if you are not careful!
- CHEATING OF ANY KIND WILL NOT BE TOLERATED!** If caught cheating, you will receive a zero. Any work copied from another student will result in a zero for both students. Be smart. Don't risk it.
- Check your language:** this means no swearing or use of derogatory language. You need to remain professional at all times...this includes when speaking in the classroom and when completing lab reports and other assignments
- In accordance with the Senior Attendance Policy, unexcused absences and tardies will not be tolerated. It is expected that you are in the classroom, in your seat, and ready for the class when the bell rings. Any excessive absences/tardies will result in parent/guardian contact and possible school consequences.
- Do your best work! You will get out of this class what you put into it; make it count.

Materials: You are responsible for bringing the following to each class:

1. Assignment Notebook
2. Notebook (paper)
3. **PEN/PENCIL**
4. Composition Notebook for Labs (this will be kept in the classroom)
5. Completed Assignments
6. **CALCULATOR**
7. Folder/Binder

Grading Plan:

A point system will be used to determine your grade. There are several ways to accumulate points, such as tests, quizzes, labs, and projects. The total points will then be converted to a percentage, which will determine your grade.

93% and above	A	73-77%	C
90-92%	A-	70-72%	C-
87-89%	B+	67-69%	D+
83-86%	B	63-67%	D
80-82%	B-	60-62%	D-
77-79%	C+	Below 60%	F

Communication Plan:

I will update PowerSchool throughout the week for both parents/guardians and students to check. Student work will be entered at least once a week and updates can be expected on Mondays.

Students are encouraged to openly communicate with me both in the classroom and out.

Any questions from students or parents/guardians can be directed to me in person or via email.

Syllabus and Grading System are subject to change

Student Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Name(s): _____

Parent/Guardian Email(s): _____

By signing this form, you verify that you have read and understand the expectations that you are to uphold when in the science classroom. You also verify that you understand the protocol that will be taken if these rules are not followed.

Student Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date