

class code:

2014-2015 Chemistry Policies and Procedures

Mrs. Winkler (room 201)

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Welcome to your chemistry classroom! Below is your course outline, along with classroom policies and procedures. Read it over with your parents/guardians, and return the last signed page to me by _____. **The remainder of this agreement MUST be kept as part of your chemistry notebook.** If you or your parents/guardians have any questions throughout the year, contact me using the email provided above. It is important that we all understand these rules and expectations in order to create a positive and safe learning climate. I look forward to working with all of you this year as we explore the world of chemistry!

Chemistry is a full-year course designed to introduce you to chemical principles and give you a chance to enhance your understanding with appropriate laboratory experience, including CAPT lab experiences. We will put strong emphasis on problem solving and higher order thinking skills such as transfer, application, and experimentation. In other words, you will be asked to apply the knowledge you gain through this class to solve problems. The topics we will investigate this year will include the following:

Term 1

- Safety
- Scientific Method
- Measuring and units
- Introduction to Matter
- Atoms and Atomic Structure
- Periodic Table
- CAPT Labs: Solar Cooker

Term 2

- Nuclear Chemistry
- Classification of Matter
- Physical/chemical Properties/Changes
- Density
- Formation of Compounds

Midterm Exam – will cover concepts from terms 1 & 2

Term 3:

- Types of Compounds
- Types of Chemical Reactions
- Balancing Chemical Equations
- Molarity
- Mole Conversions
- Percent Composition
- Mass Percent
- CAPT Embedded tasks

Term 4:

- Properties of Water
- Acids and Bases
- Organic Chemistry
- Polymers
- Gas Laws
- CAPT Labs: Acid rain, Vitamin C Titration, Polymers

Final Exam – will cover concepts from terms 3 & 4

Policies (aka rules!)

1. Respect yourself:

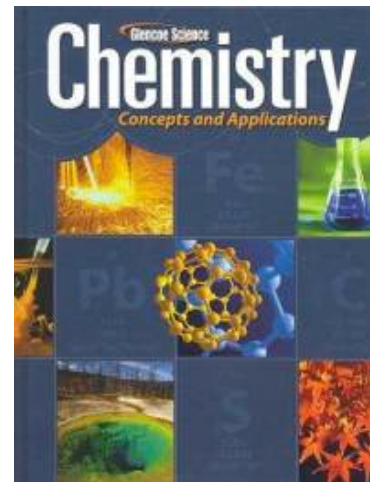
2. Respect your peers:

3. Respect your school:

Procedures (aka what to do when...):

- You arrive to class: Hand in any due assignments (color coded folder). Start any “Bellwork” exercise. Record homework assignments from the homework board
- You are absent: Check the “While you were out folder”. Inside you should find all handouts that you missed, along with a log of what was completed during your absence. It is your responsibility to get the missed work and see me if you do not understand the material or assignments. You will have two school days to make up the missed work for each day that you were absent. Work handed in beyond the 2-day grace period or work missed due to an unexcused absence is subject to late point penalties and may not be accepted. If you are absent only the day before the test, you will take the test with everyone else. Missed laboratory experiments must be made up within 1 week of the date of the original experiment. Experiments are made up after school on Tuesdays PROMPTLY at 2:15 p.m. You must sign up with your teacher prior to your make up date.
- You are tardy without a note: Write your name on the board and plan to stay after for 10 minutes after school

- Leaving the classroom: You need to ask and you need a pass! Furthermore, due to classroom activities, you may be asked to wait until a better time, in order to not disturb important instruction.
- You are confused: Refer to your notes, refer to your textbook, sign up for extra help (in that order).
- You need extra help: Sign up on the calendar. Seek extra help as soon as you find that you are having difficulties in order to prevent any further confusion. Come prepared to ask specific questions. Please pay attention to days “not available” on calendar
- Things you will need to bring to class on a **daily** basis: 1”- 3-ring binder divided into five sections (Notes, Handouts, HW, Labs, Bellwork), lined paper, pencil, pen, scientific calculator, covered textbook (Chemistry: Concepts and Applications. Glencoe McGraw-Hill, 2009), an open and flexible mind!



Grading Policy:

Final Grade: Your final grade for this course will be the weighted average of six grades: the grade you earn each quarter (20% each) and the grades you earn on the midterm and final exam (10% each).

Quarter Grade: Grades will be updated and posted at my discretion and are determined upon the following weighted categories:

- Tests, projects, quizzes, and notebooks (45%)
To ensure that students are regularly completing and understanding their coursework, quizzes may be administered up to once a week, with a formal test at the end of a chapter or two. Advanced notice for all tests and the majority of quizzes will be given to ensure that each learner has ample time to study. Learners often have the most success on a test when they have studied on several different occasions rather than “cramming”. A notebook check (present and organized in class) could also count as a pop quiz grade.
- Labs (40%)
Students will be participating in a number of exciting laboratory activities this year. To ensure that each student is able to enjoy and succeed in the laboratory, he or she must have a thorough understanding of safe lab practices. Please review and sign the safety guidelines with your parents. You will only be allowed to participate in the laboratory activities upon passing a safety quiz, and returning the signed agreement. Unsafe laboratory practices or unequal participation between lab partners may have a negative impact on the learner’s grade. Likewise, a student endangering others through carelessness, ignorance, or malice will be removed from the lab and may receive a grade of zero for that lab. Labs may be turned in late, but are subject to late point penalties (10% deduction for each day late).

- Homework and in class assignments/participation (15%)

Homework is always due the class after it is assigned unless I tell you otherwise. Homework will be checked in class, and is considered on time **only** if it is ready at the beginning of class. A 3-point scale (0, 1, or 2) will be used to grade homework. A perfect homework assignment worth two points will have all problems completed, show work and include units (yes, parts of this class are a bit like math class!). A covered textbook or preparedness check (do you have your calculator?) could also count as a pop homework grade. Homework will not be accepted late.

Extra Credit is NOT something you should rely on to raise your grade. Focus on the assignments you are given. These are the assignments that will help you master the material covered in the curriculum. If extra credit is offered, it will be available for each student.

Discipline and Rewards:

Consequences for violating classroom policies and procedures:

- Warning
- Detention
- Office Referral
- Call home to parents
- Zero for assignment
- Written reflection

Rewards for complying with rules and procedures, or exemplary performance/behavior

- Games
- Good notes/calls home
- More say! What would you like to have happen?



Chemistry Policies and Procedures (2014-2015)

Please read the entire Chemistry Policies and Procedures and sign below. Return the signed page to your teacher, and keep the remainder of the course description in your chemistry notebook.

By signing this plan, I am confirming that I understand the aforementioned grading policy and I agree to comply with all policies and procedures. My signature also confirms my understanding of all consequences that may result from violations of the plan:

Student

Print name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent/Guardian

Print name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Additional Comments from student or parent: