

# AP Chemistry Course Syllabus

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**Textbook: Chemistry: The Central Science**

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## Philosophy of the Course:

1. Students will **learn** the facts, formulas, and principles that compose the AP curriculum;
2. Student **understanding** of the concepts, underlying facts, formulas and principles will reinforced in theory and laboratory portion of the class.
3. Students will **develop** their critical-thinking and problem-solving skills, not only to use in chemistry but, by extension, to use in everyday life.

## Prerequisites:

- 1- Regents' chemistry (either Honors or regents')
- 2- To be successful in this class students must have a strong work ethic, a good attitude; be determined, honest and curious. It would also be helpful if you have a sense of humor.

## Classroom Decorum

- Students should raise their hand if they have a question.
- The classroom is a lab/lecture room. Therefore **No gum chewing, or food allowed. Only bottled water is allowed at your desk.** Ice coffee and similar beverages are not allowed.
- Cell phones are collected at the beginning of each class. Students can pick them up on breaks during a double period or at the end of a single period. They are not to be used during lab class.
- A cell phone does not replace a calculator. Students can only use a calculator in this class.
- Bathroom privileges – Students will be required to leave their cell phones in the classroom while utilizing the bathroom. Students should request to be excused. Only one student is excused at a time. If Dr. C requests that you wait a few moments, it usually means he is in the middle of a thought you should hear. Students should avoid abusing their bathroom privileges.
- Tardiness -- students frequently late to class will be referred to Dr. Browne.

**How will your quarterly grade be determined?**

## Quarterly Grade Calculation

Quarterly grades will be determined by the fraction:

$$\frac{\text{Earned Points}}{\text{Possible Points}} \times 100 = \text{Your Grade}$$

Keep track of all grades and save all papers that are returned to you.

**Grades will be tabulated from exams, quizzes, labs, and the class participation.**

## Tests

Tests are given at the end of each major topic. Tests require a double period to complete. If a student misses a test they are expected to make up the test either;

- a. On the day they return after school (except during the spring sports season)
- b. The next morning well before period 1

Once an exam has been reviewed with the class, absent students will take a make-up test on a date to be determined by Dr. C. The make-up test will contain the same material as the missed test. However it will not be the "same" exam. Missed tests due to an illegal absence (i.e.: cutting class) will result in a zero. Missed make-up exams due to an illegal absence will be assigned a zero. Students signing out before the end of the day when a test is scheduled are expected to inform the instructor. If not, it may be treated as a cut exam. Students *habitually* missing tests, when the class is offered periods 1-2, then signing in late will be considered cutting class. All unit exams are scored out of a possible 100 points. A tentative **exam schedule will be posted on Canvas and a hard copy provided to students in class.**

## Quizzes

Quizzes, when given, will be announced. In general, quizzes are a very good way to prepare you for a test. Missed quizzes due to an illegal absence (i.e.: cutting class) will result in a zero. Quizzes typically focus on recent homework assignments. A quiz should take no longer than 10-12 minutes. A quiz may also be in the form of a class activity that is collected.

## Laboratory Requirements

1. A lab report must be written for each lab you complete in class in a black/white marble notebook. The report length varies depending upon the lab completed. All labs are hand written. The only exception will be for students that have an IEP that allows for computer use in class.
2. Students **MUST** make up all labs missed within one week of returning to school. Failure to make up a lab will result in a zero for that assignment. Students can make up labs any morning. Labs cannot be made up after school.
3. Lab reports are due in class on the designated due date. For each day it is late students lose 10% of the total points assigned to that particular lab experience.
4. **Lab due dates will be posted on Canvas and in class.**
5. Labs are worth 10 points.
6. Students will receive an (I) for progress reports and quarter grades if labs are incomplete for a quarter.

## Class Participation Grade

Each quarter all students will begin with a 30-point class participation grade. Two point demerits will be applied primarily for the following;

- \* Incomplete homework (assigned screencasts for home viewing)
- \* Worksheets or review book assignments incomplete. Chem – is - try!
- \* Not following class cell phone rules.
- \* Failure to wear goggles in lab, leaving a messy lab station and dirty glassware (*both partners are responsible for their station*).
- \* Clowning around in lab.

Dr. C will keep track of the date and occurrence. Participation grades will be posted at the end of each quarter. Students are encouraged to ask for verbal updates as they wish.

### **Extra Credit**

Extra credit question(s) from prior topic(s) will be found at the end of each exam. A total of three points may be earned. Occasionally Dr. C might count the cell phones. Following the classroom cell phone rule *may* also provide an opportunity for extra credit. Extra credit points earned will be added to the exam score. **This is the only extra credit provided in this class.** Individual requests for extra credit at the end of a quarter or year cannot be honored.

### **Homework**

Homework provides a student time to self assess their knowledge and ability for any given topic. **Students are encouraged to work on their homework in a collaborative group.** Students working together share ideas and different ways to approach a question. Dr. C may periodically check to see if homework is being completed. This may provide insight on why a student is or is not successful in class. Dr. C reserves the right to grade or not grade all or part of any homework assignment without notice.

### **AP Exam**

All students enrolled in AP Chemistry are required to sit for the AP exam in May. Failure to sit for the exam will result in the AP title removed from your transcript.

### **The College Board Chemistry Specialty Test (SAT II)**

After completing this course students have been prepared to take the Chemistry SAT II exam. If a student plans on taking this assessment, I highly recommend you sign up for the June exam. Dr. C will provide review in class after the AP exam. Students can also attend the Honors chemistry review sessions.

### **Your AP exam is on May 1**

What to do when you just don't get it???

### **Extra Help**

Extra help days and times will be posted on my website home page. You do not have to have questions to attend extra help. However it does help.

Students are encouraged to message Dr. C when they have homework questions. A response can typically be expected any day of the week until 8:00 pm.

AP Chemistry syllabus signature sheet-

By signing below the student and parent (guardian) acknowledge that they have read and understand Dr. Colascione's AP Chemistry syllabus.

Student \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Printed name

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_