

Chemistry Course Requirements

Accelerated Chemistry

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Philosophy of the Course:

1. students will **learn** the facts, formulas, and principles that compose the regents curriculum;
2. student **understanding** of the basic concepts underlying the facts, formulas and principles will be reinforced; and
3. students **develop** their critical-thinking and problem-solving skills, not only to use in chemistry but, by extension, to use in everyday life.

Prerequisites:

To be successful in this class you 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

- Please raise your hand if you have a question.
- Cell phones that ring, are used to text, or call a friend will be confiscated and given to Dr. Browne.
- A cell phone does not replace a calculator. You can only use a non-graphing calculator in this class.
- Tardiness – students late to class without a pass more than twice will be assigned after school detention.

How will your quarterly grade be determined?

Tests

Tests are given at the end of each major topic. If you miss a test you must take a make-up test at the end of the quarter. The make-up test will contain the material that was covered on the exam that you missed. All make-up tests will be held on the same day at the end of the quarter. Missed tests due to an illegal absence (i.e.: cutting class) will result in a zero.

Quizzes

Quizzes can be announced or unannounced. 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

Homework

Homework counts! Some are collected. Make sure you always complete your work. Late homework is **not** accepted and will count as a grade of 0. You are responsible for all assignments. If you are absent due to a school field trip, your homework should be handed in before going on the field trip. If you are absent from school it is **up to you** to find out any assignments and be ready to turn in your work when you return to class.

Laboratory work and reports

NYS Board of Education requires that a student taking the Chemistry Regents must complete a minimum of 30 laboratory hours (1200 minutes). If a student does not have 30 hours of lab work they cannot take the Regents. The Regents exam counts as a fifth quarter grade. **Eating and drinking are not permitted in the laboratory.**

Labs are due by June 7 in order for students to take the regents exam in June. Students will receive an (I) for progress reports and quarter grades if labs are incomplete for a quarter.

Laboratory Requirements

1. A lab report must be written for each lab you complete in class.
2. Students MUST make up any lab missed within three days of returning to school. Failure to make up a lab will result in a zero for that assignment. This strict policy assures that all students will meet the state requirement for the regents examination
3. Your lab report is due in class on the designated due date. For each day it is late you lose 10% of the total points assigned to that particular lab experience.

Lab folders must never be removed from the classroom under any circumstances.

Assessment

Your lab grade will be based on:

1. lab safety and participation
2. lab station clean-up
3. lab reports

Quarterly Projects:

Generally there are 2 to 3 projects. These projects will be assigned at the beginning of each quarter.

- First Quarter.....Element flag (40 pts)
- Second Quarter.....The mole (40 pts)
- Third Quarter.....Element rap (40 pts)

Quarterly Grade Calculation

Your quarterly grade will be determined by the fraction:

$$\frac{\text{Earned Points}}{\text{Possible Points}} \times 100$$

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

Final Exam

Yes. There will be a final exam given during "finals week" in June. It will be a comprehensive exam to help prepare for the chemistry regents. The final will be included in your 4th quarter average.

Regents' Exam

All students enrolled in accelerated chemistry are expected to take the chemistry regents' exam. This is worth 1/5 of the final grade.

SAT II exam (Chemistry)

This exam is optional. This will be discussed in class and at back to school night with the parents. Parents with concerns or questions are encouraged to contact me at my email address.

What to do when you just don't get it! -- Extra Help

Extra help is available on Monday afternoons from 2:30 to 3:00 and Wednesday mornings from 7:10 to 7:40. As soon as you are feeling unsure about the material make certain you see me. The material you don't understand one day is sure to come back and haunt you later. **Do not put it off.**