

PLEASE READ, SIGN, COPY, AND RETURN ORIGINAL TO MR. THALER. THANK YOU.

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Course Description:

CP Chemistry deals with the substances that make up our environment and the changes that take place in these substances. This is a year-long course designed to meet the 10-unit physical science requirement for graduation, and to give the college-bound student a good foundation in laboratory-based, problem-solving chemistry. **A sound mathematical background in Algebra 1 is important for success in this course.**

This course satisfies the UC "D" or "F" requirement.

General Course Objectives:

(For a detailed outline, go to mrthaler.net.)

SEMESTER ONE

Unit I—Chemistry Fundamentals

Unit II—Atomic Structure, Electrons, and the Periodic Table

Unit III—Chemical Formulas, Bonding, and Molecules

Unit IV—Chemical Equations and Stoichiometry

SEMESTER TWO

Unit V—Chemical Thermodynamics and Kinetic-Molecular Theory

Unit VI—Solutions; Reaction Rates and Equilibrium; Acids, Bases, and Salts

Unit VII—Organic Molecules

Grading Policy:

I estimate 1000 to 1200 points available per semester. Cumulative available points equal 100 percent. A test point is weighted no more nor less than any other point. The following scale will be used for assigning letter grades:

A = 100 - 90% B = 89 - 80% C = 79 - 70% D = 69 - 60% F = 59% or less.

A *C minus* (70-73%) is considered in danger of failing, as is anything in the *D* range. An *F* is, of course, failing.

There is typically no extra credit available other than board points (see below), which will be explained further in class.

Classroom Rules:

I expect students to be studious and courteous at all times in my class:

1. OUR PRIMARY GOAL IN THIS CLASS IS TO LEARN CHEMISTRY. Students will respect the rights of others to learn in a safe, enlightening, and productive environment.
2. BE ON TIME! Otherwise, consequences will not be pleasant. For example, I may hold your work for the days you are tardy in the make-up folder until such time as I see fit to grade it.
3. COME TO CLASS WITH YOUR TEXTBOOK, A PEN AND/OR A PENCIL, A NOTEBOOK—standard equipment—plus any necessary supplementary materials, and be prepared to work.
4. BE PREPARED TO PARTICIPATE in class discussions, which will be based on the reading and/or homework. Also, be prepared to participate in board work—a great source of bonus points.
5. RAISE YOUR HAND if you wish to add something to lectures or discussions. Otherwise, when I am addressing the class—that is, lecturing—DON'T TALK.
6. NO LATE WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED, other than makeup work for a justified absence on the day it was due. You will have one day for every day an assignment or due date was missed, beginning with the day you return to school from an excused absence, to hand in homework or make up quizzes and tests for credit. So, if you are absent the day something is due, you hand it in the day you return. LAB EXERCISES MAY NOT BE MADE UP. I have measures in place for genuinely unavoidable absences, however.
7. **NO CELL PHONES, HEADPHONES, ELECTRONIC DEVICES OF ANY SORT, BOOKS OTHER THAN CHEMISTRY, ETC. ARE ALLOWED**—If I see one of these items out in class, I will take it away. This goes for using a phone's calculator, too. Use a calculator.
8. IT IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED THAT YOU GET A SCIENTIFIC CALCULATOR. You'll need one. (They typically range from \$10 to \$15.) Graphing calculators are fine, too.
9. PLAGIARISM is defined as the practice of taking someone else's work or ideas and passing them off as your own. There will be zero tolerance for plagiarism or cheating in this class, in accordance with SVUSD policy. Lab reports are to be written independently.

Laboratory Rules:

Same as classroom rules, plus:

IMPORTANT: There will be zero tolerance for behavior by any student that infringes upon the right of other students to learn and experience science. This especially applies to the laboratory, where bad behavior can endanger other students. I will take any measures necessary to eliminate disruptive elements from my classroom or laboratory.

Students and their parents will be required to sign a laboratory safety contract before students will be allowed to do lab work.

Assignments and Points:

All assignments will be announced in class as they come up, and/or they will be posted on mrthaler.net. If you do not have internet access, then you had better pay close attention when I am giving out homework. (By the way, everyone on the SSSH campus has internet access in the library.)

Homework assignments and 1st-quarter labs will typically be worth 10-15 points each; informal lab reports—beginning 2nd quarter (you will have a rubric)—will be worth 30 points each.

There will be reading quizzes on most chapters (20-30 points, each), follow-up quizzes on most chapters (20-30 pts each), and a 100-point exam on most every unit. There will be a semester-cumulative final exam, worth 200 points, at the end of each semester.

There will be two formal, typed lab reports—due second semester—worth 60 points each.

*IT IS UNLIKELY THAT YOU WILL PASS THE CLASS IF YOU FAIL TO
CONSISTANTLY DO THE HOMEWORK AND LAB REPORTS.*

Textbook:

Wilbraham, A.C., Staley, D.D., Matta, M.S., and Waterman, E.L. (2007). Chemistry. Boston, MA: Pearson Prentice Hall.

Laboratory Manual:

LeMay, H.E., Beall, H., Robblee, K.M., and Brower, D.C. (2000, 1996). Chemistry: Connections to Our Changing World, Laboratory Manual. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall.

I have read, understand, and agree to abide by the rules and regulations detailed above.

Student _____ Date _____
Sign and print.

Parent/Guardian _____ Date _____
Sign and print.

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