**2013-2014 Chemistry 100**

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Parent Communication Hour: Tuesday, 2:30-3:30 pm

Student Help: Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, 2:15-3:00 pm (or by appointment)

**Philosophy for this course…**

Curriculum

Chemistry is the study of matter. Recall that matter is anything that has mass and takes up space. You will investigate matter using 4 representations: macroscopic, particulate, symbolic, and graphic. Part of this class will not only be learning what each representation teaches you but also being able to jump between each type of representation to understand topics.

Instruction

Smart is NOT something you are but something you WORK for. We ALL WORK at something – midfielder, nose tackle, trombone player, sister, brother, daughter, son, chemistry student. How we WORK at something is to PRACTICE. You practice being a midfielder, trombone player, sister, and/or son. As a chemistry student, you practice using your brain. Your brain is a muscle – engagement and learning is exercising your brain. Major brain exercise activities will include:

1. Grouping: Classroom activities will be done mostly in groups of 2-4 persons.
2. GASP Learning Experiences: Gather, Analyze, Synthesize & Present
3. Self-evaluation: Knowing how you learn and what activities are most likely to help you learn.
4. Formative & Summative Assessment: Formative means a snapshot of how you are doing. You and I can both change behaviors to improve your learning. Examples might be homework assignments, clicker questions, or group activities in class. Summative means an end-point, a final assessment with no possibility to improve. Examples might be a lab report, unit test, or final exam.

**Topics of Study**

Unit 1: Atomic Structure & the Periodic Table

Unit 2: Bonding

Unit 3: Chemical Reactions

Unit 4: Solutions

Unit 5: Gases

**How you will learn the topics of study…**

1. Participation (formative)

To be successful in chemistry, you MUST participate – work with your group, try difficult problems,

1. Assignments (formative)

Assignments will be completed in pairs, in groups, and individually. It is expected that you will complete all assignments and ask for help if you need it.

1. Labs (summative)

Labs must be completed in a laboratory notebook. You must have 2 copies of every lab. You keep a copy for use in class and I get a copy to grade and keep for a bit.

1. Quizzes (formative and summative)

There will be weekly quizzes that are very similar to daily assignments. You will work with a group to complete a short quiz and then complete a comparable quiz individually. There are no quiz retakes.

1. Tests (summative)

You will have a test approximately every 3-4 weeks at the end of a unit. Tests will only be on paper with t/f, multiple choice, short answer, essay, graph, and drawing questions.

**Resources you need to help you learn…**

1. Daily Materials
	1. Lab notebook ($8)
	2. Notebook and folder OR binder with paper ***for Chemistry ONLY***
	3. Scientific calculator (NO, you can’t use your phone)
	4. Pencil AND pen (for writing in lab notebook)
2. Website – **www.sciencewithwestendorf.weebly.com**
	1. Check often for announcements, updates, and changes to the course calendar.
3. Textbook
	1. Chemistry (2005). New York: Prentice Hall. Students will not be assigned a textbook. Textbooks will be used in class. If students would like to access the textbook outside of class, the text is online. Instructions for access are on my website.

**School Policies to support your learning….**

* Academic Honesty (from the Irondale Student Handbook)
	+ “Irondale students are expected to achieve success with integrity. Academic dishonesty is a serious violation of scholarship standards at Irondale High School. Any act that misrepresents a student’s schoolwork or that abridges the rights of other students to fair competition is forbidden.” (p. 4).
	+ Examples: Academic dishonesty includes copying someone’s homework, whether chemistry problems or vocabulary for English. Academic dishonesty includes having the same sentence/paragraph word for word as fellow chemistry students for lab reports or essay questions.
* Acceptable Use (from the Irondale Student Handbook)
	+ “The computer and computer-related resources and capabilities of Irondale should be used in an ethical manner. Activity on these resources and capabilities may be monitored by system personnel. Anyone using/accessing these resources and/or capabilities expressly consents to such monitoring.”
* All school rules and guidelines as outlined in your student handbook will be followed in this class.

**My Policies to support your learning….**

* Late Work
	+ There isn’t any!
* Absences
	+ GO TO MY WEBSITE to check the course calendar! **www.sciencewithwestendorf.weebly.com**
	+ If you were absent on the test review day you are *still responsible* to ***take the test on the day of the test***.
	+ If you were absent on the day of a quiz, you must make up the quiz ***within one week***.
	+ If you were absent on the day of a test, you will take the test the ***same day***you get back during class.
	+ If you were absent on a lab day, you have ***one week*** to come in afterschool, do the lab with me, and turn in the lab.

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**How you will be evaluated….**

Weighted grade scale **Grade Scale**

* Quizzes = 30%

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| A | 90-100 |
| A- | 86-89 |
| B+ | 82-85 |
| B | 78-81 |
| B- | 74-77 |
| C+ | 70-73 |
| C | 66-69 |
| C- | 62-65 |
| D+ | 58-61 |
| D | 54-57 |
| D- | 50-53 |
| F | < 50 |

* Labs = 30%
* Tests = 30%
* Semester Final = 10%

SchoolView updates will occur once a week. Labs, quizzes, and tests will be the major components of what appears on SchoolView.

**In order to enroll in 2nd semester chemistry you will need to earn a passing grade of D- or better in the 1st semester of chemistry.**