**ADVANCED PLACEMENT CHEMISTRY**

**Course Expectations**

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**Course Description**

Advanced Placement Chemistry is a college level chemistry course in which the general concepts, equations and principles learned in high school chemistry are further explored and are applied to new concepts. This class is the equivalent of general chemistry in college. More intense laboratory experiences, advanced mathematical manipulation of equations, extensive research, and independent study of material are all a part of this class' requirements. Pacing is very fast as the number of topics covered is nearly double the regular chemistry course.

Course textbook:

Chemistry, Zumdahl & Zumdahl, Houghton Mifflin Company, 7th edition, 2007

(Students may borrow a textbook for the school year or may purchase their own copy. Used copies sale for about $25 on Amazon.com.)

**Course Objectives**

Students should attain a depth of understanding of fundamentals and a reasonable competence in dealing with chemical problems. The course will contribute to the development of the students' abilities to think clearly and to express their ideas, orally and in writing, with clarity and logic. This college-level course places heavy emphasis on chemical calculations, the mathematical formulation of principles, and intense laboratory work. The laboratory experience will be equivalent to that of a typical college course. Students are strongly encouraged to take the AP Chemistry exam in May to potentially earn college credit.

**Grades:** Grades should reflect the level of mastery that students have attained in the curriculum content. Students are encouraged to see the teacher for individual help during the recommended tutoring times.

The grading scale is as follows:

Grade A 100%--90

 B 89 -----80

 C 79 -----70

 D 69 -----60

 F 59 and below

**Quarter Grades:**

 80% Summative Assessments

20% Formative Assessments

Summative Assessments (aka Tests):

* Students may have opportunities to improve their test grade by retaking the test or completing test corrections. The amount of improvement will be decided by the teacher.
* Assignments (test, quizzes, labs, homework, ect.) turned in late may not be re-done for additional credit.
* No retake options or test corrections will be available for take home tests.
* Field trips are required activities and may be counted as test grades.

Formative Assessments:

Quizzes

* Quizzes may be unannounced and are used to check for understanding of classwork, homework, or lab activities.

Labs

* 50% of the final grade may be taken off a lab write-up grade if it is turned in late.
* While sufficient lab time will be given for each lab, students failing to come prepared or who make errors during an experiment may need to come in before or after school to complete the lab.
* Students who are unsafe, fail to clean up lab station or lab equipment properly may not receive credit for the lab or may have their score reduced.

Assignments

* Students will be required to complete online discussions and activities. Students will be given 2 days to complete these activities. Students without computer and internet access at home should see the teacher immediately so additional options can be discussed including additional time, finding computer and internet access at school or local libraries, or making an appointment to arrive early before school or stay after school to use a class laptop.
	+ Guidelines for using Edmodo and other electronic communication devices.
1. Be courteous and respectful when posting and responding to others.
2. Respond to others questions and requests; help each other out.
3. If a student doesn’t understand a question go ahead and show (either with words or photo) how to complete it.
4. Don’t show an entirely completely worksheet/ assignment when answering a question. (Other students could just copy all your hard work.)
5. If you have a question that another student may be able to answer, please post it to the whole class, don't send it just to me. It will probably benefit someone else, and if I don’t read it right away, you might get the answer sooner.
6. Please don’t send me messages about your grade. Grades are to be discussed face to face in class.
7. Download the phone app or go to settings and have text messages sent to you notifying you when something new has been posted.
* Students may be required to purchase an online homework program. The cost for this program will be less than $15. If paying for this is not possible, see the teacher immediately if we (as a class) decide to use this tool, alternatives will be discussed. (This program is helpful because students complete problems online, receive immediate feedback if they are correct, and provide additional problems and practice tests for students to complete.)
* Missing assignments turned in after the corresponding test will only earn half credit.

**Semester Grade:** Each quarter will count equally toward your semester grade (40% each); the semester final exam will count 20% for all students.

**Semester Exams:** The first semester exam will cover all material presented up to the end of the second quarter. The second semester exam is a cumulative comprehensive final covering the entire year. Study guides are furnished for each of the final exams. The written Spring Semester exam will be waived for students who take the AP Chemistry exam; a lab practical exam will still be required as well as completion of a course evaluation.

**AP Chemistry Exam:** Students who feel well prepared should consider taking the AP Chemistry Exam. Details how to sign up for this exam will be given in early spring. Students will take practice exams to help prepare them and determine if they should take the exam. Students earning a 5 on the AP Chemistry exam will earn an A for both the fall and spring semesters of AP Chemistry.

**Topics by Quarter**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **1st Quarter** | **2nd Quarter** | **3rd Quarter** | **4th Quarter** |
| *Big Idea 1:* *Structure of Matter*General ChemistryAtoms, Molecules, IonsStoichiometryAtomic Structure and Periodicity | *Big Idea 2:* *Properties of Matter*GasesChemical Bonding and the HybridizationSolids and Liquids*Big Idea 3: Chemical Reactions*SolutionsElectrochemistry | *Big Idea 4:* *Kinetics*Kinetics*Big Idea 5:* *Thermodynamics*ThermochemistryThermodynmanics | *Big Idea 6:* *Equilibrium*EquilibriumAcids and Bases |

**Attendance**: Attendance is an essential part of the educational setting and lack thereof can seriously affect your grade. Consistent with the Clark County District’s attendance policy and the Nevada Revised statute, if a student exceeds ten (10) unapproved absences in this class in a semester, he/she may not earn credit due to lack of required class time.

**If the student is absent on the day of a test or quiz they lose the option to complete test corrections or retake the assessment. Students may be required to take the test on the day of their return if the test was scheduled before the student’s absence. The make-up test or quiz may be different from the original test. If you know that you are going to be absent take the test early.**

**Students who are absent for a lab may be required to stay after school to complete it.**

Students who are absent have 3 school days upon return from an absence to initiate contact with teacher and then a minimum of 3 days to hand in make-up work. Students who are absent for extended amounts of time should make arrangements with the teacher to make-up and complete missed work.

**Student Expectation**

1. Students will respect themselves, other students, and the teacher.
2. Students will arrive on time, ready to work, and fully participate in class activities.
3. Students will follow all safety rules and guidelines.
4. Students will clean up after themselves and return equipment clean and to the correct location. Students breaking equipment may be required to pay to replace broken lab equipment.
5. Any concerns about content, class management, class instruction, or grading should be discussed with the instructor at an appropriate time. These concerns will be taken very seriously as I try to provide all students with a professional and educational learning environment.
6. Students will take ownership of their learning, as this course will most likely require more independent study than any other courses taken.

**Course Supplies**

Students are required to bring the following to class each day:

* Textbook
* 3- Ring Binder with dividers (notes, assignments, tests/ quizzes, cram sheets)
* Notebook paper
* Lab notebook (bound- composition or spiral, quad ruled)
* Pencil and blue or black ink
* Scientific calculator
* AP Chemistry Study Guide- Students may choose from a variety of study guides at their local bookstore or from an online book seller.

**Discipline Policy**

 1st violation warning

 2rd violation parent contact/ detention

 3rd violation detention/ referral to dean

 4th violation referral to dean

Possession of weapons, theft, fighting, possession or use of narcotics, gross insubordination (threatening or cursing the teacher) will result in immediate removal from class.

**Academic Dishonesty**

* All students are expected to do their own work.
* Relying on unauthorized sources for answers on exams, quizzes, labs, or other class projects is cheating. You will receive a “0” grade for that exam, quiz, or project. Students will NOT be allowed to retake the test or re-do the assignment. You may also be subject to further disciplinary action.
* Students and parents must complete the “Academic Dishonesty” policy notification at the beginning of the school year.
* If you aren’t sure, ask your teacher before you do it.
* Answers on tests, quizzes, and free response problems that are verbatim to online answers will not be accepted.

Miscellaneous Class Rules and Information

* Students may be required to attend after school/ weekend study sessions or spend equivalent time study with a study group made of up students from this class.
* Students are expected to spend a minimum of 3 hours a week studying in addition to completing course assignments.
* Summer homework is required as it reviews the key points from Chemistry I Honors that students must know to be successful in AP Chemistry. Students will take many quizzes within the first few days and weeks of the new school year to assess their understanding of this content.

This document may be modified at any time. Sufficient notice will be given to students.

**Course Syllabus / Course Expectations**

**(Please sign and return to Mrs. Simoneau)**

Students:

 I am pleased that we have a chance to work together this year. Please do not hesitate to bring to my attention any problems you may experience with the class. By working as a team we should have an enjoyable year.

 “I have read Mrs. Simoneau’s student expectations and lab safety rules and I fully understand them. I was given an opportunity in class to ask questions concerning the expectations and rules.”

Name of student (please print) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

 Please read the attached student expectations your daughter/son will be required to follow. I encourage students to speak with me first about make-up or missing work and specific issues with grades. If possible please contact me via email; this is the easiest and quickest way to contact me directly.

**Parent/Guardian signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Contact Information:**

**(home phone number) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**(e-mail) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**(work or cell phone number) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**