

WELCOME TO CHEMISTRY!

Course Outline, Introduction, and Suggestions for Success

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<http://www.chemistar.com> (assignments and resources)

my.hrw.com is your textbook website. Login info given in class.

Office Hours: Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, 2:30-4:30 PM

TEXT: *Modern Chemistry*, Sarquis & Sarquis, Holt McDougal, ©2012

Take your textbook home, because that's mostly where you will use it. It's not necessary to bring it daily. Log in to the textbook website ASAP. Let me know of any challenges.

CONTENT: To understand chemistry is to understand the world. Our study is based on the Oregon State Science Standards, available at <http://www.ode.state.or.us/search/page/?=2560> or in your Chemistry binder.

CLASS NORMS: Based on Silver School's Tone of Decency

1. Be here, be kind, be safe.
2. Be prepared to work.
3. Work hard.

MATERIALS NEEDED – PLEASE BRING DAILY:

- three-ring binder (2-3 inch, for Chemistry only)
- 5 tabbed dividers
- bound theme book for lab – Bookkeeper has these
- scientific calculator (NOT your cell phone, iPod, etc. Watch for sales)
- 12-inch ruler that is also marked in centimeters/millimeters
- 8.5 x 11" notebook paper is far more convenient than 8" x 10"
- blue or black pens, pencils, hi-liter, pens in your favorite color
- 50 index cards

ATTENDANCE: A chemistry class cannot be made up by just reading, xeroxing someone's notes, or doing a worksheet. Do not miss class unless it is absolutely necessary. If you were absent, get materials in the What Did I Miss box or get them online at <http://www.chemistar.com>. You may also e-mail me with questions. You may have the number of days you missed school plus one to turn in or make up work, including labs. If you miss 2 days of school, you have 2 days + 1 day (by 3:30 PM) to make up your work. This policy is not without compassion for unusual circumstances. See me with your concerns.

ASSESSMENTS and GRADES:

80% Proficiency - anything that directly assesses the most basic mastery of Oregon State and National Science Standards.

15% Background & Enrichment - supports your learning; lets you show that you have exceeded standards.

5% Assignments – in and out of class

Lab activities, inquiries, individual daily work, entry tasks, assignments, homework, quizzes, tests, projects, and other practice assessments that support your success in mastering standards may contribute to your grade and may be scored in any of the 3 categories, above.

Proficiency assessments may be retaken within 2 weeks of the original test date, after submitting the Application to Reassess. There is no need for extra credit in this class.

GRADE SCALE:

A	90.00 -100.0% - exceeding standard
B	80.00 - 89.99% - mastering standard
C	70.00 - 79.99% - meeting standard
D	60.00 – 69.99% - nearly meeting standard
F	Below 60.00% - not meeting standard

You will earn a C or better by showing that your learning and skills meet standards.

A grade of D indicates that your work, while showing participation, does not yet meet the minimum standard of learning as described by the State of Oregon. A mark of D will grant you graduation credit for this class, but is not accepted by a university as a passing grade.

ELECTRONICS and Norms for Responsible Use: The responsible use of an electronic device can greatly enhance your learning. Use of such devices is permitted so long as you follow responsible use norms, listed below.

- Earbuds, headphones, or other listening apparatus is to be stowed out of sight before you enter the classroom. You're here to interact with real people.
- Electronic devices are to be used to enhance your learning. Any other use during class is irresponsible.
- Place your device, upside down, on your desk, ready to use.
- Put the device on *silent*, not on *vibrate*.
- Turn off notifications to all apps such as Twitter, Instagram, Tumblr, etc.
- Per agreement among science teachers, all devices must be turned off and stowed in your book bag during any assessment.
- *At no time may you photograph or record another person without their permission.*
- *It is unlikely that you will have time or reason to listen to music during this class, so don't ask.*
- Please inform your friends and parents that you'd appreciate their patience if you don't read or respond to a message during class as this would interrupt your learning.
- Give the office phone number to your family members so they may reach you in an emergency. The number is (503) 554-4527.
- If you misuse the device the privilege to use it during class will be revoked.

EVERNOTE: Go to www.evernote.com and create a free account. Add the app to any device you have – phone, iPod, iPad, laptop, home computer. More later on using this tool.

CALCULATORS: Any model that says “scientific” will be fine. **Save the manual.** With the exception of medical devices such as insulin pumps or pacemakers, **CALCULATORS ARE THE ONLY ELECTRONIC DEVICES TO BE USED IN THIS CLASSROOM DURING ASSESSMENTS.**

BLOGGING, WIKIS, and YOUR DIGITAL FOOTPRINT

As adults move into a new age of communication, we find that most students are already there.

Universities, employers, scholarship committees often check the Internet when considering you for admission, employment, or a scholarship. A negative digital presence can be very damaging. A positive web presence can be equally as important. Your online presence is often founded in news articles about athletic, academic, or philanthropic accomplishments. Also present are social media posts on Facebook, Myspace, or Twitter. Any academic work you post on a blog or wiki can help create a positive image. Our work in class at this time need contain no information that might be used to identify you, unless you choose to add your academic work to your online presence. Later, as you apply for college admissions, scholarships, and jobs, you may wish to share more of your work publicly. You will have the opportunity to create a positive digital presence in this class, if you choose to do so.

STUDYING: Plan to spend 15 minutes – 1 hour each day figuring out what you should know. Review objectives, your notes, the text, work problems, or explain the concept - to yourself on paper, or to someone else. Ask about anything that confused you right away.

NOTES: Notes are messages you make to yourself to help you remember or understand information, not just words copied onto your paper. We will explore many ways to record your understanding. Date and number all pages in the Chemistry Notes section of your binder. This is very helpful in knowing what to study for a given test, or when lending notes to a friend.

ASSIGNMENTS and DUE DATES: Bring assignments, ready to turn in, on the day they are due. Write your name, the date, the assignment prompt (page number, problem number, for example.) Correct problem-solving form must be followed. **If you need help at any time, please ask!** Remember, you're welcome to come by the classroom whenever I'm there. If you need more time or an extension of a deadline, see me with your concerns as soon as you can. It will not be possible to successfully learn all that you need to learn during the last week of the semester.

Periodically, optional group review sessions may be held before school or after school. Plan to attend these sessions if at any time you want extra help or just want to review.

LABORATORY: You will learn much more working through a lab activity out with the opportunity to discuss your questions as you work than from reading or being lectured to, and besides, they are more fun. Labs are the most fun when a thorough understanding of what you are doing lets you appreciate the sights, sounds (and smells) of chemical reactions. Along with fun comes the responsibility of being prepared and businesslike. The lab is potentially a very dangerous place, and any attempt on your part (no matter how small) to deviate from the course safety rules will result in the suspension or **termination** of your lab privileges. Know the rules of conduct in your lab safety handouts and **follow them. IF IN DOUBT, ASK!**

** If your lab notebook is unprepared when you arrive for lab, your preparation grade is zero.

A test of laboratory safety, procedures, and equipment must be taken and passed with a score of 100% before you will be permitted to begin any lab work. You may take the test as many times as necessary to pass, but remember that the longer it takes you to pass, the more lab work you will have to make up. Retakes are before or after school, by appointment.

Lab work must be made up, because this class grants laboratory credit. Alternate lab make-ups may be assigned for the first 2 times you miss lab. It's usually difficult to gain the deep understanding needed to show mastery of a concept without working with the actual process.

LAB FEES: The course fee for Chemistry is \$15.00. All school fees may be paid online at the school website: <http://www.newberg.k12.or.us/silverschool> and select WEBSTORE near the top right corner.

I'm excited for a great year!

