

## Chemistry - Syllabus

Mrs. VanWinkle Room 6

\*\*\*This syllabus may be subject to change throughout the semester\*\*\*\*\*

Chemistry is a college-preparatory, laboratory-based science class designed for motivated 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade high school students. Successful completion of the class earns the student 10 semester units of physical science. Please note that students must be concurrently enrolled in Advanced Algebra.

The course covers concepts and theories relating to the scientific field of chemistry. For instance, among other concepts, students will have a clear understanding of matter and the elements, atoms, bonding, chemical reactions, and nuclear chemistry. Knowledge will be gained through reading, homework, in class instruction, models, and internet research. The students will apply their understanding of scientific theories to laboratory experiments and projects to demonstrate higher level thinking.

Topic No.	Topic Name	Chapters Covered
1	Introduction to Chemistry	1-3
2	Structure of the Atom & Periodic Law	4-6
3	Bonding & Chemical Reactions	8-10
4	Stoichiometry	11-12
5	Gases & Their Properties	13-14
6	Solutions & Thermodynamics	15- 16
7	Reaction Rate & Equilibrium	17- 18
8	Acids & Bases and Redox Reactions	19-20
9	Nuclear Processes	25
10	Environmental Chemistry	26
11	Organic Chemistry	22
12	Important Organic Macromolecules	24

## Classroom Rules

Class rules are straightforward:

### 1. Exercise Respect

- You are expected to respect your teacher, classmates, classroom and school environment, and yourself.
  - Conduct yourself as a mature individual who is interested and prepared to learn. For instance, remain seated and ready to work while in class; furthermore, make sure you come to school with necessary materials.
  - Any behavior that is detrimental to the learning environment is unacceptable, such as excessive talking, inattention to your teacher, disrespecting others, and so forth.
2. No food or drinks, aside from water, are allowed in the classroom.
3. No electronic devices are permitted in the classroom as per VOCS policy. Cell phones, MP3 players, and so forth may be temporarily collected and given to the school principal.

**II. Class Requirements:** You will need to bring the following things with you EVERY Time we meet:

- Desire to learn
- Sturdy 3-ring binder
- Paper, pencil, eraser
- Scientific calculator
- Flashcards

**III. Textbook:** Chemistry: Matter and Change; Glencoe/McGraw-Hill © 2007

Each student will be issued a textbook. Therefore, the student is responsible for taking reasonable care of the textbook and not lose it. When you return the textbook at the end of the semester, the textbook will be checked for damage. If it is lost, stolen, or damaged, you may be charged for its replacement.

**IV. Cheating Policy:** Cheating of any sort is a serious offense. Cheating includes, but is not limited to:

- Any form of copying someone else's work or allowing your work to be copied on any assignment.
- Plagiarism (copying directly from a book, magazine, or Internet site).
- Talking during or using unauthorized notes on a quiz or test.

The first infraction of the cheating policy will earn a zero on that particular assignment. The second infraction will earn an "F" for the current grading period and a referral with possible suspension. The third infraction will receive an "F" for the entire class and receive no credit. **Please, do not cheat yourself out of learning opportunities.**

## Course Expectations

### **\*Parent**

- ❖ To assist the student in successfully completing this course, each student's parents have important responsibilities. Among these responsibilities include but are not limited to the following:
  - ❖ Assist the student in organizing his or her daily work
  - ❖ Check homework for completion and accuracy on a daily basis
  - ❖ Monitor student progress
  - ❖ Complete the homework evaluation form in order for the student to receive credit for his or her work
  - ❖ Maintain communication with course instructor

### **\*Student**

- ❖ Each student also has numerous responsibilities. These responsibilities include but are not limited to the following:
  - ❖ Completing all homework assignments
  - ❖ Turning in all assigned work by the due date (noting a penalty for late work)
  - ❖ Ask for assistance when needed from the parent and/or instructor
  - ❖ Work in the subject for at least 1 to 2 hours daily.

### **\*Instructor**

- ❖ The instructor will:
  - ❖ Provide curriculum
  - ❖ Have answer keys and other materials available for parents
  - ❖ Oversee instruction
  - ❖ Administer assessments/exams
  - ❖ Interact with parents and students as needed.

## Instruction

**At Home:** Reading and homework questions in textbook, vocabulary study, Internet research, drawings, mini-labs, and any additional projects.

**At School:** Lecture based instruction and discussions for mastery of key concepts, in-glass guided practice, formal and informal assessment, group work, and laboratory experiments and exercises.

## Course Grading

<b>Work Completed at Home (15% of overall grade)</b>	
Homework Portfolios (e.g., reading, homework, vocabulary, Internet research, drawing, additional projects, mini-labs, etc.)	15%
<b>Work Completed at School (85% of overall grade)</b>	
Labs/Projects	20%
Assessments (Exams/Quizzes)	55%
Participation (project/homework/assignments)	10%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Grade Scale

Students will be given grades based on the following grade scale that also always the course teacher to use a holistic approach to grading to improve student grades based on the teacher's judgment:

A 94-100%	A- 90-93%	
B+ 87-89%	B 83-86%	B- 80-82%
C+ 77-79%	C 73-76%	C- 70-72%
D+ 67-69%	D 63-67%	D- 60-62%
F 0-59%		

## Additional Course Information

**Quizzes:** Frequently, students take short quizzes given at the beginning of class. ***If students arrive to school late, they will miss out on the points for that quiz.*** So be on time. The quizzes will cover main concepts that have been discussed in the reading and/or during class. Students can drop their lowest quiz grade for each semester.

**Portfolio:** All homework should be neatly organized in either a 3-ring binder or folder. Portfolio presentation matters. For instance, use of dividers is appreciated. Follow the following division:

- ❖ "Evaluation Sheet & Homework Log"
- ❖ "Notes & Vocabulary"
- ❖ "Class Work"
- ❖ "Homework Questions"
- ❖ "Labs"
- ❖ "Projects"

Keep only the work for the current unit in your portfolio, but hang on to your old work until the end of the semester. In case homework is not recorded or is lost due to a computer malfunction, students must be able to turn in work for a second review. Of course, once semester grades have been posted, students may discard their portfolio material, although students are encouraged to keep these portfolios until the end of the year as students may need to review material.

**Come Prepared**

All students are expected to come to class prepared with paper, pen, pencil, and the work for the current portfolio. The teacher does not have extra materials available. **BE PREPARED AND READY TO WORK!**

### **Exams**

Exams are important aspects of any learning effort. If a student scores above a 70%, they will be permitted to do test corrections. They must redo all missed questions to receive possible extra points on their exam. Students can only receive up to 10% extra points on test corrections (one full grade). If a student scores below a 70%, he or she will have the opportunity to meet with me for tutoring and to re-take the test for a maximum of 75%. Please note, however, that students cannot re-take exams after a following exam has been administered.

**Missed class:** If a student misses class, he or she should contact me preferably by email. Of course, some parents prefer not to use email, so they can still contact me by phone. Most importantly, students are responsible for keeping up to speed on what is going on in class.

**Late Policy:** Students are expected to turn in their work on time. Anything not turned in during the period it is due will be considered late and will automatically drop one letter grade. Each additional week that work is late will be graded down an additional letter grade. Work will not be accepted if it is more than three (3) weeks late.

**Extenuating Circumstances:** If you have extenuating circumstances, please let me know in advance when possible.

**Tutoring:** I will be available during the Thursday Support Program 9:20-11:55. If you need additional time, contact me.

**School Website:** This website is a valuable place for additional resources.  
[www.valleyoakscharterschool.org](http://www.valleyoakscharterschool.org)

**Please feel free to call me at (661) 852-6758 or email me at [kivanwinkle@kern.org](mailto:kivanwinkle@kern.org)**

