

Ms. Angela Horst
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Phone Number: 281-671-4306

Waltrip High School

Advanced Placement Chemistry 2019-2020
Conference Periods: 5th and 7th
Tutorials: Monday/Wednesday 4:05-4:45p

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND EXPECTATIONS

Advanced Placement (AP) Chemistry is the *equivalent* to a first-year college chemistry course. We will be using College Board's AP[®] Classroom and resources to guide our learning. This course is design to assist students in passing the AP[®] Chemistry exam. Passing the AP[®] Chemistry exam may qualify students to skip the first-year college chemistry course and save money on tuition. All students must take the AP[®] exam on Thursday, May 7th at 8:00am. Passing scores on the AP exam are 3, 4, or 5. Students receive this score in July from AP College board.

TEXTBOOKS

Students will have access to textbooks through the HUB and CollegeBoard.com. Hard copies of their HUB textbook (Zumdahl, 9th edition, 2013) will be available for check out over the weekend. There are two copies available and they are my personal copies, not the school's. Assignments will be in given on both and progress checks will be done regularly on AP[®] Classroom.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

Prepare to **spend at least 1.5 hours daily for chemistry**. (Reading and checking notes, reading the next day materials, practice work, working ahead, correcting assignments, etc.) Before any lecture, read the appropriate sections from the text. Begin working text problems as soon as a unit has begun. For success, students must be able to work problems quickly and correctly. I, personally, received credit for General Chemistry 1 and 2 from the 5 I earned on the AP[®] Chemistry exam. Treat this course as a priority and you will be rewarded. I strongly believe that the best way to learn a concept is to do your own work. Occasionally, we all need help.

*Let's define the parameters concerning the "help" that is available on practice work, and labs:

- from me-- at any time (I will even tell you if you are working a problem correctly!);
- from each other-- IF you only talk "process" ("First I found the mass of lead, then I found....")
- from the internet or other sources when studying; understand how the answer was derived

*Let's define the "help" that is considered cheating:

- copying of answers; plagiarism; distributing answers without permission
- turning in another student's work as your own;
- using notes on a test or quiz without permission; etc.

CLASSROOM and ACADEMIC EXPECTATIONS

1. All HISD and Waltrip High School rules and expectations.
2. Assume the responsibility, maturity, and independent thinking of a college student.
3. Take the AP Chemistry test Thursday, May 7, 2020.
4. Be respectful and responsible. Refusal to make efforts to complete work, excessive absences and tardies result in an academic referral.

GRADING SYSTEM

Grades are based on points earned on tests, quizzes, laboratories/projects, homework/problems sets. Each component is weighted as follows:

Exams/projects- **30%**; Homework/classwork- **30%**; Quiz- **20%**; Lab- **20%**.

The following grading scale will be used:

A = 90%- 100% **B** = 80% - 89% **C** = 75% - 79% **D**= 70% - 74% **F**= 69% & below

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EXTRA CREDIT

- o You may receive ½ point per eligible question for correcting quiz questions. You must include the original.
- o You may receive ½ point per eligible question for correcting exam questions. You must include the original.
- o Late work is not eligible for extra credit.
- o Other extra credit opportunities as designed with instructor approval. If you are missing any assignments, you are **not** eligible. Points are added to the lowest homework/classwork score.
- o All extra credit is individual.

It is important that students do their best the first time they do an assignment, quiz, or exam, etc.

RETAKE POLICY

1. You are permitted a maximum of **2** retakes for exams only.
2. Maximum retake score is 70%, (score of 70 to 100 = 70). This score is not curved past 70%.
3. You may correct any lab for half credit back. All retakes are individual.
4. The highest grade between the original and the retake is counted.
5. Semester Exams are not eligible for retake.

HANDING IN ASSIGNMENTS/ LATE WORK

1. Always turn in your assignments to receive feedback.
2. All assignments are due **ON TIME**. Late assignments receive a maximum score of **70%** and are not permitted for extra credit points or retake/correction points.
3. If you are on campus the day an assignment is due then you are required to turn it in, even if you miss your chemistry class period. It is your responsibility to come to me to submit your work to me. Put the work in my hands. Turn in your work even if you leave early or arrive late. Do not send other people to submit work on your behalf.

MAKE-UP WORK

1. It is the student's responsibility to obtain and make up work missed due to excused absences.
2. Make-up work is due one day after the student returns to school following an absence: If you miss school on Monday, but return to school on Tuesday then your work is due Wednesday. If you are in school Monday but miss Monday's class, your work is still due on Monday; come see me before you leave early.
3. Students are given extensions according to the number of days absent: 2 school days for a 2-day absence, etc. If you are absent from school Monday and Tuesday but return to school on Wednesday, your work is due Friday-- You have Wednesday(day1) and Thursday(day2) as your extended days.
4. **Lab Make-up:** Due to the nature of labs, it is extremely important that you be in class on lab days. Labs involve chemicals and equipment that may be available on lab day only. To make up a missed lab, you will need to collect the data from another student group.

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To the Parents/Guardians:

Awareness and involvement in your child's schoolwork is the first step for them to achieve success. I encourage you to read over and discuss the course syllabus and expectancies with him/her so that any questions may be answered promptly. I expect your son/daughter to assume the responsibility, maturity and independent thinking of a college student.

As the parent, I encourage you to monitor his/her progress and attendance during the school year. Some helpful tools include:

- **Grade reports/Gradespeed** – Your student should be able to report his/her grade to you at any time with reasonable accuracy and you may view your student's progress using gradespeed. Please also monitor your student's absences and tardies.
- **HISD HUB** is an online learning software used to facilitate learning. The student textbook for this course is online/on the laptop as there are very limited physical textbooks to check out and take home. Those textbooks are my personal copies, not the school's. It is critical that students bring a laptop every day to school in order to complete their work.
- **E-mail, phone communication, conferences.** –The is the best method to contact me is through email at angela.horst@houstonisd.org. I check emails and make calls during my conference periods which are at 2:30-4:00pm on Tue/Thur and 2:20-3:05pm on Mon. For phone communication: 281-671-4306, I will try to respond to you during the conference periods as soon as I can.

Your students should **spend at least 1.5 hours each day studying for chemistry**. (Reading and checking notes, Reading the next day materials, practice work, assignments, HUB, etc.) Before any classroom topic discussion, read the appropriate sections from the text. Begin working text problems as soon as a unit has begun. Encourage your student to come to class and tutorials with questions and take advantage of extra credit opportunities.

Our goal, with your help, is for your student to successfully pass this course, perform well on the AP exam, and earn college credit. If we- student, teacher, and parent- can make a commitment to work together, then this will be an obtainable goal. Your questions and comments are always welcomed! Please sign the attached page to acknowledge that you have received this information and are aware of the policies and expectancies of your student's Advanced placement chemistry class.

Thank you,
Ms. Angela K. Horst
AP Chemistry Instructor
S. P. Waltrip High School
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Ph. 281-671-4306

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Please fill in the following information and provide phone number(s) where I may contact you or leave messages concerning your student.

Student Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Contact Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

I have read and discussed the classroom procedures with my son/daughter, and understand the grading policy, expectations and other information provided on the syllabus.

Student Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____