

Milby High School

Chemistry Syllabus (2014-2015)

Teacher: Mr. E. Ortiz
Room: 225

Course Description and Objective

This chemistry course helps students acquire the knowledge and skills needed to succeed in the classroom and beyond. Its emphasis is equally divided between developing a conceptual understanding of the major topics of chemistry and developing problem solving skills in those topic areas. Basic algebra and problem solving skills will be used extensively throughout the year. Emphasis will be placed on understanding the theories at hand and identifying them in everyday life. A laboratory component accompanies the classroom element in the course. Students will be expected to undertake and report on laboratory projects related to the topics in the class. The student will demonstrate proficiency typical of a first year chemistry course on the following topics:

1. The history of chemistry
2. The nature and practice of chemistry
3. Applications and uses of chemistry
4. The implications of chemistry for society and the environment
5. Current issues, research and developments in chemistry
6. Atomic structure, the periodic table and bonding
7. Energy
8. Chemical reactions, including acid/base reactions and chemical equilibrium
9. Carbon chemistry
10. Stoichiometry.

Methodology

Class time will be divided between lectures/demonstrations, discussions, and problem solving format. The lecture/demonstration and discussion format will be used to introduce new topic areas and clarify the theory needed to master them. The problem solving format will lead itself to the practical and classic application of the theory. Students will be expected to solve complex problems as a routine part of the course homework. Students will also be required to conduct laboratory exercises each week.

Materials

Students will be expected to bring the following to every class:

1. Pen and Pencils
2. Composition book or Notebook
3. Scientific Calculator

Student Evaluation

Classroom	45%
Tests	30%
Quizzes	15%
Homework	10%

Test: One test will be given per chapter or unit of material. Test dates will be announced at least 2 days prior to the test.

Quizzes: They will be announced and unannounced.

Labs: Approximately one lab will be conducted each week. Evaluation will be in the form of a laboratory report. Due dates will be announced.

Class participation: Class participation will be evaluated on an individual basis and will depend on class discussion, question-answer sessions, and lab participation.

Homework: Problems will be assigned on a per section and unit basis. The homework due dates per section will be announced by the instructor at least one day prior to its due date.

Absence Policy/ Missed Work Policy

1. You will have one day to make up missed homework and it is your responsibility to have it completed.
2. If you are absent during a test or quiz, you have two school days to make it up. Anything made up after that without a valid excuse (e.g. doctor's note or court) will not be accepted.
3. THERE IS NO MAKE-UP FOR MAKE-UPS.

Textbook

Chemistry, Addison-Wesley. Prentice Hall.

For a majority of the course class notes and problems will be handed out. Students will be expected to keep these notes in a folder.

Expectations

Respect is the basic premise for all behaviors in the classroom. Respect yourself. Respect others. Respect school property and personal property. Failure to meet this expectation will result in an appropriate consequence.

I expect everyone to come to class on time every day. Furthermore, coming to class also implies that each student has read and/or done the assignment for the day and is ready to work. This is essential to helping you learn about chemistry and succeeding in this class. Upon being absent, you will be responsible for making up all assignments and obtaining the information you missed from me. If you know about an upcoming absence (school related or otherwise), please make arrangements beforehand.

Classroom Rules

1. Be on time to school and class.
2. Bring your tools for learning to class each day.
3. Talk during designated times.
4. Adhere to the school dress code.
5. Be courteous and respectful to others.

Do not ask to leave the room during class. Take care of your “personal emergencies” before and after class (you are safer in the classroom than wondering around the hallway).

Cell phones and/or electronics devices will be confiscated and taken to the office. No cell phones from the start of the class to the end of class (from bell to bell).

Asking questions

The smartest people I know are not afraid to ask questions in class. So, be smart and ask! It is wise to seek help sooner than later, especially if you are struggling with understanding concepts and/or solving problems!

Additional expectations and note to parents

It is very important to listen in order to learn. **If you are talking, you are not listening. If you are not listening, you are not learning.** Please follow these simple procedures, so you can get the most out of this class.

I understand that it is okay to talk:

1. If I raise my hand and the teacher calls on me.
2. If talking is necessary to complete my assignment.
3. If it is free time and I have completed my assignments.

But I know that I must not talk:

1. When the teacher is talking.
2. When a student is asking or answering a question.
3. When the teacher has instructed the class to be quiet.

Chemistry Signed Syllabus

I/we have read the Chemistry Syllabus. I/we will do our part in helping make this year a productive learning year.

I understand this syllabus as we discussed it during the first week of class. I understand that if I have any problems, I will address them with Mr. Ortiz promptly. I also understand that consequences will result if I do not choose to abide by the requirements for this class, both in grades and behavior.

Please sign and date. Return by Monday, September 8th, 2014. Syllabus must also be signed and dated by a guardian. This copy will be kept on file for the 2014-2015 school year. You may also find a copy of this syllabus at:
<http://www.houstonisd.org/Domain/30048>

Student _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian _____ Date _____

AIM HIGH! BELIEVE IN YOURSELF! LET'S HAVE A WONDERFUL AND SUCCESSFUL SCHOOL YEAR!