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## WELCOME TO CHEMISTRY!

Course Outline, Introduction, and Suggestions for Success

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Class website: [www.chemistar.com](http://www.chemistar.com)

(assignments, learning goals, resources are stored there)

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. Check the website calendar. To know when to bring it. Textbook Website: [my.hrw.com](http://my.hrw.com) Login info given in class.

**CONTENT:** To understand chemistry is to understand the world. Our study is guided by Oregon's Next Generation Science Standards ([www.nextgenscience.org](http://www.nextgenscience.org)) adopted by Oregon in 2014 and stated as learning targets found on each unit outline. Our study includes properties and patterns in matter, chemical reactions, safe lab procedures, gases, chemistry of acid/bases, bonding, and applications of the above. Specific learning goals are on each unit organizer.

### **EXPECTATIONS:**

1. Be here, be kind, be safe.
2. Think before you act.
3. Be prepared to work.
4. Work hard.
5. Show respect.

### **MATERIALS NEEDED – PLEASE BRING DAILY:**

- three-ring binder (2 inch, for Chemistry only)
- 4 tabbed dividers
- scientific calculator (NOT your cell phone, iPod, etc. Watch for sales)
- Spiral notebook for chemistry notes only, OR notebook paper
- blue or black pens, pencils, hi-liters, colored pens in your favorite color
- 50 index cards
- a zippered pencil pouch that fits in your binder to keep everything in

If obtaining these supplies is a challenge, please see me immediately. I have solutions.

**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**

**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.

**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 and find them online at <http://www.chemistar.com>. You may also e-mail me with questions. It is in your best interest to make up all missed learning as soon as you possibly can.

**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.

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**ELECTRONICS and Norms for Responsible Use:** The responsible use of an electronic device can greatly enhance your learning. They can also interrupt your focus and thus, your learning. Your Parent/Student Handbook states “all electronic sound or communication devices such as pagers, cell phones, MP3 players, iPods, and games cannot be used during the school day unless student is given permission to do so by a staff member. The school does not take responsibility for devices that are damaged or stolen.”

In accordance with this policy, use of such devices is permitted with teacher permission and according to the following norms:

- 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 may be used to enhance your learning at the teacher’s discretion and with permission only, so long as the device is set to *silent*, not *vibrate* and all notifications for all apps such as Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, Snapchat, Tumblr, etc are turned off.
- 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 understanding 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) 554-5000.

If you misuse your device, the privilege to use a device during class will be revoked.

**CHEMISTRY NOTEBOOK:** Bringing the needed tools to each class largely supports your success in chemistry. It is expected that you assemble a looseleaf binder according to the instructions given on the handout titled Care and Maintenance of the Science Notebook, that you maintain the binder in usable condition, and that you bring this notebook to every class. The notebook may be reviewed by a parent or guardian during the year, following prompts given at that time.

**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.

**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, with resulting impact on your grade. Know the rules of conduct in your lab safety handouts and **follow them. IF IN DOUBT, ASK!**

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. It’s usually difficult to gain the deep understanding needed to show mastery of a concept without working with the actual process.

**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.

**ASSIGNMENTS and DUE DATES:** Bring assignments, ready to turn in, on the day they are due. **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. **LATE WORK** is accepted only when you are making forward progress as determined by the instructor. It will not be possible to successfully learn all that you need to learn to be proficient if you wait until 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.

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:** "Cheating" is claiming work as your own when it is indeed NOT your own work. Any assignment on which collaboration is encouraged will be marked as such with the expectation that you are demonstrating an active participation in the learning. Any other work submitted must be your work and yours alone. Cheating includes copying anything, including an idea, from anyone even though you "change a few words." See your student handbook for district policies.

**ASSESSMENTS and GRADES:**

- 80% Proficiency - anything that directly assesses the most basic mastery of Next Generation Science Standards ([www.nextgenscience.org](http://www.nextgenscience.org) )
- 10% Learning Opportunities
- 10% Formative assessments

Lab activities, inquiries, individual daily work, entry tasks, assignments, homework, quizzes, tests, projects, and other practice assessments that support your success in mastering concepts may contribute to your grade and may be scored in any category depending on their purpose. *Proficiency assessments may be retaken or re-written **once**, after a student has shown a reasonable effort to master the concepts within a reasonable time, for full or partial credit at the instructor's discretion. Because multiple opportunities to show proficiency are already built into the course, there is no need for "extra credit" in this class.*

**FINAL GRADE SCALE:** (taken from proposed school board recommendations)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| A | 90-100% Student demonstrates achievement of all academic standards at a mastery level, or most at a mastery level and all others at a proficient level |
| B | Student demonstrates achievement of all academic standards at a proficient or mastery level  |
| C | Student demonstrates achievement of most academic standards at a proficient or mastery level, with some at a near proficient level.                    |
| D | Student demonstrates achievement of some academic standards at a proficient or mastery level but most at a near proficient or emerging level           |
| F | Student demonstrates achievement of no academic standards at a proficient or mastery level.  |

I'm excited for a great year!