Academic Chemistry—Mrs. Powers

Green Hope High School

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Dear students and parents,

Welcome to Academic Chemistry! I am so glad that you chose to take this course and I look forward to getting to know you!

Chemistry is a very fast paced course. This is a cumulative course and the material that is learned on day one will still be important on the last day. Do not allow yourself to get behind. If you do not understand a concept, take the initiative to get the help you need. Since concepts build on each other, it will be difficult to catch up. It will be beneficial to read ahead in the online text so that you can ask questions about the material being covered. It is necessary to practice chemistry every night, even if no formal homework is assigned. This includes reviewing your notes, trying additional practice problems and watching review videos that I will post online.

With hard work, I know you can do it! Please let me know if you have any questions. Let's have a great semester!

Mrs. Liz Powers

Course Overview

- 1. Intro & Measurements
- 2. Matter & the Atom
- 3. Periodic Table & Quantum
- 4. Chemical Bonding
- 5. Nomenclature
- 6. Chemical Reactions

Midterm

- 7. Moles & Stoichiometry
- 8. Gas Laws
- 9. Acids & Bases
- 10. Thermodynamics
- 11. Nuclear

Final Exam

*Note: The midterm will count as two test grades and the final exam will count for 20% of the entire course grade.

Safety

Since this course is lab based, safety in the laboratory is a big concern. All students have been provided with two copies of the safety rules. One copy is to be kept in the student's chemistry folder/binder and the other is to be signed by the student and parents and turned in to Mrs. Powers. All safety rules need to be followed at all times while in the chemistry classroom.

Tutorials

Tutorials will be in room 2326 on Mondays and Wednesdays for the first half of lunch. Students are required to attend TWO tutorials per quarter. In order to receive credit, students must sign in upon their arrival. I will also be available mornings at 7:00am and after school upon request, though it will not count for tutorial credit.



Expectations

- 1. Be respectful
- 2. Be prepared for class
- 3. Be safe
- 4. No food or drinks (except water)
- 5. Follow all GHHS rules

Required Materials

- 1. 3-ring binder or folder for chemistry only
- 2. Pen and pencil
- 3. Notebook paper
- 4. Scientific calculator
- 5. Reference table

Tardies

Students must be in their seats and ready to work by the time the bell rings, otherwise a tardy will be given. The following tardy policy will be followed in this class.

Tardy Policy

1st Tardy – warning 2nd Tardy – parent contact 3rd Tardy – teacher detention 4th or more – referral

Electronic Device Use

All electronic devices such as phones, tablets, or laptops, must be put away and out of sight unless there is prior approval from the teacher. If a student violates this expectation he or she will have to place their device in the appropriate pocket at the front of the room. If a student continues to not follow directions, additional consequences will be given.

Additional Important Information

Grading Policy and Grading Scale

Grading: 50% Tests

25% Labs and Projects

23% Quizzes, Classwork, and Homework

2% Tutorials

If there are any questions about how I graded an assignment, come see me as soon as possible. Questions about how an assignment was graded should be asked within **two school days** after the assignment has been returned.

Your final course grade is calculated using a weighted average. Each quarter grade counts for 40% and the final exam counts for 20% of your final grade. Final course grades will not be "bumped" so please don't ask. Your grades are calculated according to this weighted average and I will not override those calculations.

Honor Code

It is expected that all work completed is done with integrity and honesty. **All work**, whether it is a test, quiz, lab, or other assignment, must be your own. The Green Hope High School Honor Code and Pledge with be followed in this class and can be found on the class website.

Honor Code Violations

Any evidence of cheating will result in the student receiving the consequences listed below. This also applies to the person from whom the answers are derived.

<u>1st Infraction</u> – Receives a zero with the opportunity for an alternative assignment for up to 60%

<u>2nd Infraction</u> – Receives a zero with the opportunity for an alternative assignment for up to 50%

<u>3rd Infraction</u> – Receives a zero with a day of suspension <u>4th</u> <u>and all following infractions</u> – Zero on the assignment and additional days of suspension

Mastery

Students will have the opportunity to take optional mastery tests during lunch tutorial twice per quarter. These mastery tests will cover multiple units and can replace the student's lowest test grade. There will be no make-ups offered for them. Dates of the mastery tests will be announced at a later time.

Make-up Work/Late Work

If a student misses class for an excused absence work must be made up within two school days. It is the student's responsibility to get any missed notes from other students and assignments from the teacher once returning to school. In the case of extended absences I will work with the student on an individual basis. All work should be completed and turned in on time. If work is turned in late, a 50% deduction will be applied. An assignment is considered late once the assignment has been collected by the teacher. Late assignments will only be accepted through the test for that unit.



Assignments

All assignments will be posted on the website and announced in class, including labs, homework, classwork, articles, projects, as well as the dates of all tests and quizzes. Occasionally students will need to print out their own assignments from the website.

Labs

Labs are a very important part of this class and will help in learning the material. It is important to be in class the day of the lab activity. In the case of a missed lab activity students may be assigned a modified assignment due to equipment and time restraints. Make up labs will take place during lunch tutorials.

Tests/Quizzes

Students will be told of tests and quizzes in advance.
Students who are present the day before the test, but are absent on test day, should be ready to make-up the test the day they return to school. If a student misses the day before a test and no new material is covered, they will be expected to take the test with the rest of the class on the test day.