

Cold Spring Harbor High School
General Chemistry Syllabus
Mrs. Deanna Diaz

Contact Information

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Required Textbook

Chemistry: Visualizing Matter- HOLT

Course Outline:

- Introduction to Chemistry
- Matter and Energy
- Gas Laws
- Atomic Structure
- The Periodic Table
- Nuclear Chemistry
- Chemical Naming and Formulas
- Chemical Bonding
- Kinetics and Equilibrium
- Acid-Base Theories
- Organic Chemistry
- REDOX and Electrochemistry

Course Rules and the Learning Environment:

In addition to the Cold Spring Harbor rules of conduct and policies, the following behaviors are also expected:

- Be prepared for each class. When the bell rings, you are expected to be seated and ready to learn. Make sure you have your homework and notebook out on your desk and a pen or pencil.
- Remember, you are here to learn, but also have the responsibility to allow others in the classroom to learn. Students DO NOT have the right to disturb other students, the teaching process, or the learning environment. Disturbances and disruptions will not be tolerated. It is imperative that you are quiet during presentations, lectures, demonstrations, *etc.* so that everyone can hear. You will get **one** warning!
- **Raise your hand!** Appropriate action will be taken if the normal tranquility of the classroom is interrupted.
- **NO FOOD/DRINK** is allowed on your desk or the lab bench. This is for your own safety!
- **Absolutely No Gum Chewing** in class.
- Communication Devices: all **cell phones** must be **turned off**. **One warning!** It will be confiscated if it disrupts class. This includes texting! If you have any emergency, please let me know. We will make arrangements if necessary.
- **Laboratory Safety must be followed at all times.** No horseplay in the lab! Although you will be closely supervised, the surest way to have an accident is to fool around and not pay attention to instructions. This especially means no playing with fire, unauthorized experiments, or working without safety glasses! These infractions will cost you points and/or you will be asked to sit down and receive a zero for that lab. No sitting on lab tables or vents in the back of the room. Your lab area must be clean at all times. You will be working in groups of two or three, so it is a group responsibility to keep the area clean. Your entire group will lose 5 points if I have to clean up after you. **Please read and sign the Safety Contract.** Keep a copy in your binder.
- In order to do well in Chemistry, students should spend *at least* 20-30 minutes a day doing homework, preparing lab reports, studying for quizzes/tests, or reviewing notes.
- Students should make every effort to attend class regularly. If a class is missed, you should get the notes from a friend and seek help from me as soon as possible. Tests should be made up within 48 hours of your return to school.
Miss a Day- Miss a Concept! Friend's Name_____ **Phone #** _____
- You will have the opportunity to practice the material covered in class through daily reading and homework assignments. Each day at the start of the period we will go over the answers to the previous night's homework problems. Homework assignments will be checked regularly.

Grading Policy:

- Your grade is based on your total points earned/total points possible x 100.
- Point categories include tests, quizzes, laboratory assignments, homework, classwork and participation and projects. We will have approximately 2-3 projects in the year. They will be worth 50-60 points in a marking period.
- Tests are ***usually*** worth 85- 100 points (approximately 25-30% of your grade), quizzes/questions are worth 10-50 points (approximately 20% of your grade), lab reports are worth 10-30 points each depending on the lab hours (approximately 20% of your grade), homework assignments are worth 5-25 points each (approximately 15%-20% of your grade) and participation is worth approximately 10 %- 20 % of your grade. You will automatically start out

with 25 participation points each quarter. These are yours to keep, unless you are late to class, disrupt the class or cut class. You will lose 2 points each time you are late or disrupt the class! If you cut class, you will lose 10 points from your participation grade. This will adversely affect your chemistry grade for the quarter. If you cut a lab class, you will not be able to make up the lab and will receive a zero and no credit for that lab.

- There will be topic tests approximately every 2-3 weeks and quizzes in between. Tests will only be given Tuesday-Friday, but quizzes may be given any day.
- You must have a **sharpened pencil for every test or quiz!** You will lose 2 points if you are not prepared when the bell rings.
- If you miss an exam due to a legal absence, see me to make arrangements. Do not expect me to hunt you down. It is your responsibility.
- If you cut class during an exam, you will receive a zero for that exam. No Exceptions!
- If your homework assignment is not in class and open on your desk when I check it, you will receive no credit for that homework assignment. No Exceptions (even if it is in your locker and finished). Be prepared for each class. If you are absent, show me your completed work when you return. You are responsible to complete all assignments, even if you are absent. Call a friend in class or email me. Try your best! See me if something serious occurs.
- There is No Extra Credit! If you complete your assignments, study hard for my tests and attend extra help when needed, you will do well. Do not fall behind! This is a demanding course!

Note: Cheating is never acceptable! You will receive a grade of “0” if you use someone else’s answers in your homework or lab reports. This is a form of cheating called: “plagiarism.” Although you will be working in small groups for lab activities, your lab report must be in your own words!

Supplies Needed:

- Loose-leaf binder (1 ½ inch- 2 inch)
- Scientific Calculator
- Three folders with pockets
- Sharpened # 2 pencils at all times!
- Blue/Black pens only!

Extra Help:

By Appointment.

Parent/ Guardian Signature _____ Student Signature _____ Date _____