

AP CHEMISTRY Course Syllabus

Teacher:	Kelly Schumann
Conference:	4th period: 11:00am to 11:55am, or by appointment
Contact Info:	kschumann@bellvilleisd.org
Tutorials:	Almost every afternoon from 3:30-4:00, mornings only by pre-arranged appointment
Website:	http://bhs.bellvilleisd.org/departments/science_department/mrs_schumann_s_class

The AP Chemistry course is the equivalent of two semesters of college chemistry. The course stresses mastery of the conceptual and quantitative aspects of chemistry, by enhancing students' qualitative understanding and visualization of the particulate nature of matter through the development of students' inquiry, analytical, and reasoning skills. The laboratory experience is an integral part of the course, with an emphasis on guided inquiry. Students will take the AP Chemistry exam on May 2nd, which provides the opportunity to earn 1-2 semesters of college course credit plus lab credit, based on exam performance and university requirements.

GRADE DISTRIBUTION

Tests	60%
Labs & Quizzes	30%
<u>Homework/Daily</u>	<u>10%</u>
Total	100%

EDMODO

Calendars, answer keys to practice problems, notes, tutorial videos, resources etc. will be posted on Edmodo. Students are encouraged to use Edmodo to their full advantage.

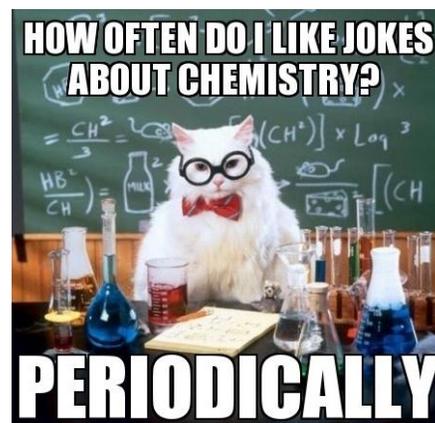
TESTS AND QUIZZES

Test dates are posted on the six weeks calendars. Tests will be by unit(s) depending on the material and topic length, and may contain material from previous units, due to fact that chemistry is a cumulative subject, and the AP curriculum requires that students make connections between topics. Students who are absent for any reason the day before the test will still take the test as scheduled, as no new material will be covered the day before the test. Students who miss a test or quiz must arrange a makeup time with the teacher as quickly as possible. Quizzes are also posted on the calendar and/or announced with ample notice to students.

Both tests and quizzes are graded on a curve based on how the actual AP Chemistry exam is graded. There are no corrections or retakes on quizzes and tests.

ONLINE HOMEWORK

Students will complete Quest homework assignments for each unit of study. Specific instructions for using the system will be provided. Quest assignments are submitted electronically. Quest assignments count as QUIZ grades. Students generally have two Quest assignments to complete for each unit of study. Typically students are given at 3 to 5 days to complete a Quest assignment. **NO LATE QUEST ASSIGNMENTS ARE ACCEPTED.** If a student has extended absences due to an extenuating circumstance, a Quest extension may be granted via arrangement with the teacher ahead of time.



LABS

- Each student begins the grading period with a 100 daily grade for laboratory participation. 20 points will be deducted from this grade for each instance of inappropriate behavior or dress (example: removal of safety goggles, wearing sandals or flip flops). A conference with the student/parent and/or disciplinary action will result for any persistent problems.
- Students are responsible for maintaining a set of laboratory glassware and equipment at their lab station. Students must make sure to clean equipment and put it away in its proper location at the end of class, alerting the teacher to any damage or breakage that occurred during their lab period.
- If a student is absent on a lab day, the experiment may need to be made up after school, by appointment w/teacher. Alternatively, sample data may be provided. Students will be provided with requirements and guidelines for lab assignments. Some requirements may vary from experiment to experiment, depending on the specific objectives and goals of each lab. As part of many pre-lab exercises, students must obtain SDS information for the specific chemicals used for each experiment, to demonstrate advance knowledge of the chemicals' properties.
- Lab quizzes will be completed for most labs. Students will be permitted to use the lab while taking the lab quiz, unless otherwise instructed. Labs may be turned in late for a 20% point deduction per day late. Labs not turned in at the beginning of class on the due date are considered late. Lab quizzes may not be taken late.
- All labs completed in this class must be saved in a dedicated lab binder. Specific instructions will be provided. All binder check grades will be averaged together for a MAJOR grade for the 6th six weeks. You should keep your organized laboratory notebook. Your university may wish to see the notebook in order to decide whether to award you credit for the laboratory component of General Chemistry.

TIPS FOR SUCCESS

Students often ask how they can improve their performance in chemistry. Here are some recommendations, based on my observations as a chemistry teacher:

- A strong work ethic is the most important key to success in this class. Work steadily instead of cramming right before the test. Slow and steady wins the race!
- Be an active participant in class! Put the phone up and use this precious time wisely. Most of you are very busy, and you cannot afford to waste time in class when you need to be learning.
- QUEST is one of the most important learning tools you have at your disposal. Put effort into your QUESTs: do not procrastinate, document your work, and make sure you really understand how to arrive at the correct answers. You will get out of it what you put into it. Don't take shortcuts on homework if you're interested in learning chemistry.
- Ask questions in class or in tutorials, or form a study group. Do not be shy! This is not easy stuff. College freshman taking this course this fall will rely heavily on group study sessions, give it a try.
- Think, think, think in the lab. Do not lean too heavily on your lab partners. The experiments are designed to help you attain a firmer grasp on the course objectives, but you won't get much out of them if you don't engage your brain.
- Watch the videos provided. These instructional videos are PERFECT for those who miss a class or need to hear someone teach it again.
- Rusty on your Chem I? This is an excellent resource. <https://www.flinnprep.com/> It costs \$50 for 12 month access and is 100% optional.
- Study actively. Work problems/answer questions to test your understanding; don't just stare at the book.
- Use technology: course website, other internet resources, videos, apps, etc. An amazing wealth of information is right at your fingertips, literally!
- Pay attention to the calendar for the class. Be aware of approaching quizzes and tests in all of your classes.
- Keep up with the class! We move fast. Keeping up is much easier than catching up.

SUPPLIES

2" 3-ring binder (for class materials)

10 dividers for the 2" binder (8 will not be enough, so get two packs of 5)

1 1/2 " 3-ring binder (for lab notebook)

Scientific calculator (There is a class set of TI-nspire calculators, but you will need a calculator for home)

16 GB Flash drive (A new one dedicated to this class only. I will be downloading all the instructional videos on this flash drive for you to use as needed. This will be your best friend during this class.)

Optional:

Safety Goggles Students may, as an option, choose to purchase their own safety goggles, instead of using a pair from the class set. We will place an order at the beginning of the school year. The goggles will cost between \$5-\$8.

Please cut along dotted line, sign and return this half sheet NO LATER than Friday, August 28, 2015: Please keep the syllabus in your binder to consult as needed.

I have read and understand the "AP Chemistry Syllabus." I agree to comply with the policies and procedures outlined in this document.

PRINT STUDENT NAME (neatly): _____

STUDENT SIGNATURE: _____

PARENT SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____

PARENT CONTACT INFORMATION:

Parent Name (printed): _____

Preferred Email Address (please print): _____

Phone: _____