
Chemistry
Mrs. Morris



Introduction

Welcome to Chemistry! This is a college prep course that meets the University of California's requirements of a laboratory science. This means that the class will *be academically rigorous, have nightly homework, have lab work several times weekly, require writing of lab reports and be fast moving.*

Class Expectations

In order to create a safe and positive learning environment, every student is expected to follow all Foothill Basics school policies. This includes the following...

Be Responsible: Be prompt and prepared for class.

Be Respectful: Show respect for your fellow students and the teacher.

Be respectful of all belongings, equipment, materials and other items within the classroom. DO NOT write on the laboratory bench tops.

Be Ready to learn: Come to class prepared.

Be Good and Use Common Sense

Consequences: Progressive consequences include warnings, teacher assigned detentions, written essays and apologies, school detentions and Saturday school.

Assignments and Grades

Grades will be based on points derived from homework/labs/projects (30%), participation (10%), tests/quizzes and final (60%). All assignments are expected to be complete, correct and turned in on time to receive full credit. You may turn in late homework for half credit. However it must be turned in on or before the day of the test for that unit. A stamp calendar will be used to keep track of completed homework assignments. The monthly calendar will be due at the end of each month. Participation points will be deducted for being off task, sleeping in class, using personal electronic devices, excessive time out of class, tardies and cuts.

Grades will be based on the following scale: A+ 98% and above, A 92%, A- 90%, B+ 88%, B 82%, B- 80%, C+ 78%, C 72%, C- 70%, D+ 68%, D 62%, D- 60%, F below 60%. *Grades are not rounded.*

Absences and Tardies

- **Students are responsible** for getting missed work and turning it in on time. If you know you will not be in class because of an outside activity, you must get the assignment(s) **before you leave**. If you have a planned absence, you must meet with the teacher in advance to receive your work. (This includes school and personal activities).

- If you know you will be absent for a test, you must make prior arrangements with me to take the test *before* you leave.
- If you have an excused absence on a test or quiz day, there will be one make up day per quarter. Exams can be made up at the end of each quarter. Students can take an exam from the material that they missed or take a cumulative exam. Students can also opt to take the quarter final to replace one low test score. This is a Chemistry department policy. Unexcused absences will result in a zero for the test or quiz.
- If you are tardy, your homework is considered late and will be handled accordingly (see assignments and grades).

Cheating

The Foothill academic honor policy will be enforced in this class. This means that any form of ***cheating is not tolerated***. This includes (but not limited to) copying homework, labs and assignments, allowing others to copy from your work, sharing a calculator on tests and quizzes as well as any type of cheating on quizzes and tests. Foothill consequences are followed (please reference your daily time tracker). First offense will include contact with a parent/guardian, a referral will be placed in your permanent file, and you will lose the trust of your teacher (me!). I will not include consequences for repeat offenses with the assumption that you will learn your lesson the first time.

Materials suggested for class:

- A scientific calculator is needed in this course. One will be provided for you on the day of a quiz or test, but not for laboratory and class work. Cell phones are not to be used as calculators at any time. The calculator provided for testing is a CASIO fx-300MS.
- Composition notebook
- Daily organizer provided by FHS

Final Notes

- Cell phones, iPods, mp3 and any electronic devices must be turned off before coming to class and should remain in your backpack at all times during the class period.
- If you are falling behind in class you need to seek help immediately. This class builds upon previous knowledge so don't wait until the last minute.
- If you or your parent/guardian(s) need to contact me, I am most easily reached by email at rmorris@pleasanton.k12.ca.us. I rarely check voice mail so I suggest you contact me via email.

Classroom donations:

The following items are common consumables in a chemistry class and are a welcome donation. Thank you for your consideration!

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|----------------------|-------------|
| ▪ Disinfectant wipes | ▪ Dish soap |
| ▪ Kleenex | ▪ Pencils |