

Introduction to Chemistry

Instructor: Ben Klein

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Office Hours: By appointment only

Office Location: Lexington High School Rm. 802

TEXT: *NONE. Photocopies or scanned images of needed text will be provided.*

COURSE OVERVIEW:

This course is based from the *Power Basics* text from Walsh Publishing. The course's overriding goal is to provide students that are daunted by the length and complexity of traditional chemistry, a more approachable form of chemistry. Designed for those students that have failed at least one semester of chemistry or are not yet ready for the regular chemistry class. It is somewhat remedial in nature. However, students will still be held accountable to for a high degree concept retention.

GOALS:

The students will be able to:

- Classify matter
- Gain basic understanding of atomic theory
- Classify chemical and physical changes
- Understand transformation of matter
- Understand other basic chemistry topics

CLASS REQUIREMENTS

- 1 inch to 2 inch three ring binder with note paper and dividers
- Pen or pencil
- iPad
- Calculator
- Planner
- ACTIVE PARTICIPATION

EXPECTATIONS

- Always keep your notebook up-dated, it can be collected anytime for a grade..
- Come to class well prepared. (3-ringer binder w/ notebook paper, pen/pencil, etc.)
- Respect each other (including yourself) and the teacher.
- Work well with your groups.
- DON'T PROCRASTINATE... make good use of your study time.
- Ask questions.
- Participate in class everyday, so that you may achieve your full potential
- This class will challenge you (the student), be ready.
- No food or drinks in class.

GRADING

Letter Grades

A+ ⇒ 100%-98%	A ⇒ 97.9%-95%	A- ⇒ 94.9%-93%
B+ ⇒ 92.9%-91%	B ⇒ 90.9%-87%	B- ⇒ 86.9%-85%
C+ ⇒ 84.9%-83%	C ⇒ 82.9%-80%	C- ⇒ 79.9%-77%
D+ ⇒ 76.9%-75%	D ⇒ 74.9% -72%	D- ⇒ 71.9%-70%
F ⇒ Below 70%		

Final Grade Break-down

Students will be grade in the following manner:

Semester Grade:

45% - 3rd Quarter

45% - 4th Quarter

10% - Semester Final Exam

Quarter Grade(s):

60% - Tests and Quizzes and Labs

40% - Coursework

- Assignments will be due when the instructor asks for them, any assignments turned after that point will be considered late. (Generally I will ask for them at the start of class). Also, quite a few assignments are due on Google Classroom. Due dates, when determined as firm, are enforced without question. Forgetting to “hit submit” is not a viable excuse.
- Later papers handed in will receive a 50% if turned in within 1 week of the due date.
- Assignments not turned in within one week after the due date will not be graded. Students will receive a 0.1% for having an opportunity to learn.

- Frequently use your planners to write down assignments, due dates, and lessons. Then refer to your planner daily so that you may prioritize work accordingly to appropriately prepare for test/quizzes/homework.
- Digital assignments must be submitted prior to the due date. Being absent on the due date does NOT absolve the student from turning in assignments on time. Only exception to this would be some issue that prevents the student from submitting the assignment. An example of a circumstance that would fall under this exception would be, but not limited to, hospitalization. Merely informing Mr. Klein of hospitalization is not sufficient. Documentation from a medical professional of no relation of hospitalization is required.

Plagiarism/Cheating

Anyone found cheating or plagiarizing work will be forced to follow the guidelines as written in the Student Code of Conduct. For a definition of cheating please refer to the code of conduct handout.

Absences

- The students will be held accountable for all missed assignments, notes, etc for any absence. You need only to refer to your planner to see what you missed. If you missed a assessment make a plan with me to make it up. Homework due dates are firm and late assignment submissions will not be accepted unless extenuating circumstances exist. Mr. Klein is the sole judge of the extenuating circumstance.
- Students that miss school because of pre-excused reasons must have work turned in prior to absence. Late paper guidelines apply to these papers. (Ergo they are due before you leave.) Ask me what you need to due before you leave. The sooner, the better!!!
- Most Labs cannot be made up. To make them up a student must complete 4 article summaries for each day missed. Article make up will only be worth 75% of the lab.
- Test must be made-up within 2 days. You must coordinate with me to make up the test.
- Ultimately, communication is key. As long as you make a plan with Mr. Klein, stick with it. If situations arise where you cannot stick to the plan COMMUNICATE with Mr. Klein. Lack of communication will indicate indifference of assignment completion to Mr. Klein which could result in late penalties or zeroes being entered for that assignment.

Guidelines for Assignments

All work turned in must follow these guidelines, unless otherwise noted by the instructor:

- Include name, date, and class on each assignment.
- No loose edges
- On hand-written assignments write legibly. If it can't be read, it can't be graded.
- Use complete sentences when needed.

*Failure to comply with these guidelines can result in points being deducted from the assignment.

LABORATORY SAFETY

1. Approved safety goggles (NOT safety glasses) are to be worn continuously while you are in the laboratory. Safety goggles will protect your eyes against impact and splashes. These goggles are available in the bookstores or from the storeroom. Wearing of contact lenses in a chemistry laboratory can be harmful to your visual health. Contact lenses should be replaced by prescription glasses except in the rare cases where this is not possible. Contact lens wearers must report this to the teaching assistant at the beginning of the semester. In any event, wearers of contacts or prescription glasses must protect their eyes with safety goggles.
If you should get a chemical into your eyes, wash with flowing water from the eyewash for approximately 15-20 minutes, and notify your teaching assistant.
2. Students are to be appropriately dressed in the laboratory at all times. Appropriately dressed constitutes wearing clothing that protects the skin from the neck to below the knees. Sleeveless or tank-top shirts, shorts, or skirts that don't cover the knees are not acceptable in the laboratory. Open toed shoes or heeled shoes or sandals are not to be worn in the laboratory.
3. Perform no unauthorized experiments.
4. Never use an open flame when working with organic solvents.
5. In case of fire or accident, notify your teaching assistant at once. (Note location of fire extinguisher and safety shower *now* so that you can use them if needed. Wet towels are very effective for smothering fires.)
6. Take special care when working with strong acids or strong bases. Contact with these materials can cause severe chemical burns.
7. Do not touch hot glassware or hot hardware. Think before you act.
8. The chemistry department will seek medical assistance for all injured students. Transportation will be supplied to a medical facility if needed. The student is responsible for all costs incurred!
9. Do not taste anything in the laboratory. (This applies to food as well as chemicals. Do not use the laboratory as an eating place and do not eat or drink from laboratory glassware.)
10. Exercise great care in noting the odor of fumes and, whenever possible, avoid breathing fumes of any kind.
11. Always use a suction bulb when filling a pipet. Never suction by mouth!
12. Don't force glass tubing into rubber stoppers.
13. To minimize hazard, confine long hair securely when in the laboratory.
14. When working with electrical equipment observe caution in handling loose wires and make sure that all equipment is electrically grounded before touching it.
15. Never work alone in the laboratory.

SPECIAL NOTES

- 1) No use of the phone in the room
- 2) The door closes when the bell rings. No pass and you are not inside the room then you are tardy.
- 3) Class starts immediately following the bell. Have your things ready. You will not be allowed go to your locker if you forgot anything.
- 4) Restroom passes are only given in the event of an emergency.
- 5) If you are tardy you have 2 options:
 - A) Serve detention that same day
 - B) Get a pass from any member of the Lexington High School faculty or staff that delayed you.
- 6) As a general rule you should plan to spend an average of 30 minutes of time outside of class studying the material per day.
- 7) KNOW your passwords! Make sure you know how to log into the all of your sites. Gmail, Google Classroom, Quia, etc.
- 8) This syllabus is subject to change as Mr. Klein sees fit. In the even of a change/addition/deletion of contents within the syllabus, students will be notified via email and/or Google Classroom notification.

Remote Learning Addendum:

In the event that this class must meet remotely due to suspension of face-to-face instruction in response to directed health protocols determined by local health departments, Nebraska State Department of Education, and/or governmental mandate the following rules must be met. These rules (and expectations) are in addition to rules set forth by the Lexington Board of Education and Lexington Public Schools Administration regarding remote learning.

- Be dressed appropriately for school.
- Eat and use the restroom before the meeting begins.
- Let family members and visitors know you are zooming.
- Be sitting in a chair at a table/desk. If possible, have a wall behind you.
- No uninvited guests.
- Have the needed supplies. Scientific calculator, pens/pencils, printed copies of the notes, worksheets, cheat sheets, etc.
- Arrive on time to your meeting.
- If you are having problems connecting, contact the teacher by email ASAP; or let a peer in the class know so they can tell the teacher.
- Turn on your camera and be visible on camera.
- Do not change your background once the meeting begins.
- Mute yourself when others are speaking.
- Use the “hi hand” to let the teacher know you have a question.
- Use the “thumbs up” to let the teacher know you understand.
- No non-class related chats.
- No recording of class without permission.
- You are in school during your Zoom Meeting, behave accordingly.

Communicate with your teacher if you are having problems or need help. They cannot help you if they do not know you need help.

Declaration of Accountability

By signing this paper the student agrees to be held accountable for all the expectations and rules set forth in this syllabus for Mr. Klein's Introduction to Chemistry class. In addition the student agrees to follow all laboratory safety rules. Violations of rules will result in disciplinary action as outlined in the Student Handbook and the Student Code of Conduct.

Take this syllabus home and go over it with your parents. After you and your parents have carefully read it and understand it, please sign and return it .

PARENTS/GUARDIANS: If your child falls behind with his class work, you will be contacted during your child's class time. If your child causes repeated problems in class, you be contacted and asked to come in for a meeting to resolve this issue.

Student: _____ (print)

Student: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian _____ (print)

Parent/Guardian _____ Date: _____

Additionally, please initial that you have you have met the pre-requisites of this class (which are having PASSED physical science and biology, each class is 2 semesters).

(Student)

(Parent)

(Counseling office)