

# INTRODUCTION TO CHEMISTRY

**Instructor:** Ben Klein

**Office Hours:** 7:30 AM – 3:45 PM (or by appt.)

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

## **COURSE OVERVIEW:**

This course is based on 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, with 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. However, students will still be held accountable for a high degree of concept retention.

## **GOALS:**

The students will be able to:

- Classify matter
- Gain a basic understanding of atomic theory
- Classify chemical and physical changes
- Understand the 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
- Planner
- ACTIVE PARTICIPATION

## **EXPECTATIONS**

- Always keep your notebook updated, it can be collected anytime.
- Come to class well prepared. (3-ringer binder w/ notebook paper, pen/pencil, etc.)
- Respect each other (including yourself) and the teacher.
- Don't PROCRASTINATE... make good use of your study time.
- Ask questions.
- Participate in class every day, 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 ⇒ 93%-97%
B+ ⇒ 90%-92%	B ⇒ 85%-89%
C+ ⇒ 82%-84%	C ⇒ 77%-81%
D+ ⇒ 74%-76%	D ⇒ 70% -73%
F ⇒ Below 70%	

### Final Grade Breakdown

Students will be graded in the following manner:

Semester Grade:

45% - 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter

45% - 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter

10% - Semester Final Exam

3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Grade(s):

60% - Tests and Quizzes and Labs

40% - Coursework

- Assignments will be due when the instructor asks for them, any assignments turned in after that point will be considered late. (Generally, I will ask for them at the start of class).
- 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.

### 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 must come to me and ask what you missed).
- Regarding homework (e.g. vocabulary powerpoints, study guides, and reading & writing activities), you are still expected to turn those assignments in before the due date and time. However, exceptions can be made to this rule if the student makes arrangements with me (Mr. Klein) and those arrangements are acceptable to both parties. This will be rare!

- If you are absent from class where you miss a quiz or exam, you have 2 days to make up the quiz or exam from when you return to school. I understand that you may have multiple assessments to make up from other classes, to alleviate that stress and give you the best chance for success on the assessment you must speak with me to FORM A PLAN for making up the missed assessment.
- Students that miss school because of a pre-excused reason need to notify the teacher (Mr. Klein) as soon as possible. **If you are attending a school function, your work must be made up ahead of time unless prior arrangements have been made.** If you miss school due to an extended family trip, a packet of articles will be put together for your participation points. These articles should be read and summarized before you come back. You are also responsible for any classwork as well.
- If you miss a lab, you need to read three articles from sciencenews.org and write a five-sentence summary of the articles. Articles are available in the science room. Please ask your instructor for articles.

### 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 the storeroom. Wearing contact lenses in a chemistry laboratory can be harmful to your visual health. Contact lenses should be replaced by prescription glasses except in rare cases where this is not possible. Contact lens wearers must report this to the teacher 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 teacher.
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 teacher at once. (Note the location of the 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 hazards, 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 to 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 outside of class studying the material per day.
- 7) **KNOW** your passwords! Make sure you know how to log into all of your sites. Gmail, Google Classroom, Quia, etc.

By signing this paper the student agrees to be held accountable for all the expectations and rules outlined in this syllabus for 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: Please keep up-to-date on your child's progress in class via PowerSchool. If caught early enough, students that fall behind in classwork can often still be successful. However, if they fall too far behind any remediation solutions may not be enough. It is your responsibility to keep track of your child's progress in school. If your child causes repeated problems in class, you are contacted and asked to come in for a meeting to resolve this issue.

Student: \_\_\_\_\_ (print)

Student: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_ (print)

Parent/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_