



Syllabus

Course Overview

This course is a precursor to an AP Chemistry class and is designed to provide basic knowledge of the major principles and concepts of Chemistry. A student successfully completing this course should be prepared to excel in an AP Chemistry class. Topics will include but are not limited to:

- Atomic structure
- Chemical names and formulas
- Nuclear chemistry
- Bonding
- Chemical reactions
- Chemical Equilibrium
- Thermodynamics
- Stoichiometry
- Solution chemistry
- Periodicity
- Behavior of gases
- Acid-base chemistry
- Thermochemistry
- Reaction Kinetics

The intent of this class is to focus on problem solving techniques and creativity this year! Theresa Amabile, Harvard University professor, states that creativity arises through the confluence of knowledge, creative thinking skills and motivation. We will provide the basic knowledge base and help develop creative thinking skills. Intrinsic motivation is up to the student! The more motivated a student is to learn independently and think creatively the more likely they are to obtain a higher level of gratification and a deeper understanding of the world in which they live. After all...

“Creativity is just intelligence having fun!” -- Albert Einstein

Materials Needed:

- 3 ring binder or folders with brads

Grading

- 60% Major grades (Tests)
- 40% Minor grades (Quizzes)
- Academic dishonesty will be handled and documented per Wylie High School guidelines.

Class website:

Website address: www.doolanchemistry.com

Textbook:

<https://openstax.org/details/books/chemistry>

Course Expectations:

1. **ALL** students will be expected to watch lecture videos outside of class time. This will be the student's responsibility. There will be computers made available after school in my classroom and in the library for students that do not have internet access at home. There will be no formal lectures in class so successful students will need to watch them at home to be successful in class!
2. Work will be graded on correct problem solving methods and not strictly on the answer. Most answers will be provided to students before work is turned in. It will be important for the student to focus on understanding the problem solving method and not strictly on completing the assignment.
3. All tests are closed book and notes. As Chemistry is a course that builds upon itself, **tests and quizzes are cumulative.**
4. Students are expected to take notes, be attentive, contribute to the class, and turn in all assignments completed. Although extra credit is rarely given, students that honestly try and cooperate will always be given consideration when borderline grades occur.
5. Labs are very serious and each student is expected to follow the Wylie Laboratory Safety policies. For safety reasons, failure to follow teacher directives will result in the removal of the student from the lab area and **alternative written work** will be assigned for the remainder of the semester for each laboratory investigation thereafter.
6. For each lab there will be a pre-lab assignment designed to familiarize the student with the lab procedures, safety protocols and calculations involved with a lab.
7. Calculator use is a privilege, not a right. Using a calculator to cheat will result in loss of the calculator privilege and some tests will be given without a calculator.
8. We will move forward every day! If you are absent it is your responsibility to obtain missing work. Yes, if you are absent you will miss work! If you are absent the day before a test or quiz you will still be required to take the test/quiz as these are announced well in advance.
9. **Grades are the student's responsibility.** Students and parents are expected to keep up with their grade progress and missing assignments.

Points to Ponder:

- I dare you to have the courage of a 4 year old!
- I get paid to answer your questions...**PLEASE** make me earn my pay.
- If it wasn't for people like me, your parents would never know you are normal.