

AAEC Chemistry
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Course Description and Objectives

This course is designed to help you become a critical thinker and reader, as well as a creative problem solver. You will be issued a chemistry textbook, *Chemistry: Visualizing Matter*, which will serve as a basis for this course. You will be responsible for this textbook, please take care of it so it can be used again next year. Supplemental reading materials will be assigned throughout the year.

We will have chemistry labs during the year, and safety in the laboratory is very important. We will learn to use laboratory equipment correctly and safely.

Class Expectations

Attitude – Success is 90% attitude and 10% aptitude. Understanding the scientific method and the basics of chemistry will provide you with powerful tools to take on the challenges of the world around us. These tools will be of great value to you, no matter what career path the future holds.

Effort – The key to success in this course is effort. Get organized and stay on top of reading, homework, and projects! You will keep a planner in which you write down the day's topics and your homework; this will assist you in staying organized. Your planner is a required part of this class; so, don't forget it! Please note that I AM HERE TO HELP YOU!! Please ask questions if you need extra help. I will be more than happy to help you; just make an appointment with me or come in during posted tutoring hours.

Respect – I expect that you show respect to the learning environment by being on time and prepared for class (this means having all your materials with you and your assignments completed). I also expect that you show respect to me, yourself, and other students and staff. This means treating everyone with courtesy and kindness.

Attendance – You need to be in class in order to keep up with the pace of this course. It is essential that you attend class because that is where the bulk of the learning takes place.

Grading

You earn your grade; I evaluate your work. You earn a grade based on how well you meet the following criteria:

1. *Assignments, Papers, and Projects:* grades are determined by the degree to which objectives are met, timeliness, neatness, and original work.
2. *Quizzes and Exams:* show your knowledge and ability on information quizzed and tested; neatness still counts.
3. *Participation:* You will be given points for contributing to class discussion and group work in positive ways. Obviously, if you're not here, you can't

participate, and your grade will reflect this. You are expected to ask questions if anything is unclear or if you need help in understanding a concept. Participation and interaction are very important skills. Modern scientists rarely work alone. Modern science is totally dependent upon the ability of scientists to freely and easily communicate with each other.

4. *Grading Scale:* 100 – 90 = A
89 – 80 = B
79 – 70 = C
Below 70 = F

Materials

Please bring the following materials with you to class everyday:

- Pens and a pencil
- Loose leaf notebook paper (Please cut off spiral edge if it is spiral bound paper)
- Textbook
- Scientific calculator
- Planner
- Lab book (composition book) as needed/announced

General Procedures

Rules: All AAEC and PVCC rules concerning appropriate dress and conduct apply in my classroom.

Testing/quizzes: Clear desks, ask the teacher (and only the teacher) any questions you may have, and when in “thought” mode, look only at your own paper.

Handing in homework: Please turn in homework to the basket at the back of the room that is assigned to your class period. I will collect it from there.

Late work: Assignments must be turned in by the due date for credit.

Food/Drink: No food, gum, or candy is permitted in class. The only drink permitted is plain, clear, bottled water. I will throw away other food/drink items brought into my room!

Cell Phones: Cell phones **MUST** be turned off. Any electronic devices (ipod, mp3 player, etc.) other than your calculator must also remain off and in your backpack. I will take phones or other electronic devices if they are not off and away, and your parent will have to come get it back.

Assignment Format: When you turn in formal papers, please type/word process them using Times New Roman 12 pt font. **Always double space** typed papers. Headings should appear as follows in the UPPER RIGHT hand corner of anything turned in:

First and Last Name
Date
Class Title and Time
Assignment Title