

Advanced Chemistry 2008-2009

Instructor

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Electronic Resources

- Website: users.bergen.org/todcra – Contains the class calendar and other useful information.
- Email: Occasionally it will be necessary to contact you outside of class individually or as an entire class. Please make sure your bergen.org email account is active.
- Gradebook: The Chemistry Department will be using an online gradebook program that you and your parents will be able access at anytime. Details to follow.

Attendance

- (1) You are expected to attend all scheduled classes.
- (2) You are late if you enter class after attendance is taken.
- (3) Your participation grade will be affected if you are late to class.
- (5) You will not be given extra time to complete a quiz or a test if you are late to class.
- (6) You will not be allowed to make up any work from a class you cut, including tests.
- (7) If you are absent, *you and only you* are responsible for obtaining class notes, scheduling make-up quizzes and completing any other assignments.

Tests

Tests are worth 100 points each. Any material covered during any part of any of your chemistry classes is fair game for a test. See “Chemistry Department Policies” below for information on retests. There will be Common Assessment exams given on 11/18 (1st tri.) and 3/10 (2nd tri.) worth 135 points each. Approximately 75% of the points on the common assessment will cover the most recent unit; the rest of the test will review previous units.

Only non-graphing scientific calculators may be used on tests and quizzes. Calculators are available during quizzes and tests for \$0.50.

Quizzes

Quizzes are worth 25 points each. Both announced and “pop” quizzes will be given during the year. Only the three highest quiz grades will count toward the trimester grade. Typically, each trimester will have four quizzes. If you miss a quiz you must make it up before or during the next class; otherwise, a zero will be recorded.

Labs

There is no separate lab period so the junior year syllabus does not emphasize laboratory the way the freshmen and sophomore year courses did. Time permitting, we may do one lab a trimester. While there are no formal lab reports to write, the content of the labs will appear on quizzes and tests.

Failure to wear goggles or behaving in any other way deemed unsafe by Dr. Crane will result in your immediate removal from lab, loss of participation credit and disciplinary action from the vice-principal.

Projects

There is one project, worth 75 points, each trimester. The first and second trimester projects are based on the summer reading. The nature of the third trimester project will be determined later.

Homework

Completing homework is voluntary. You are encouraged to work on the homework with other students. If you wish to submit the homework for credit, *it must be attempted in its entirety and done neatly with each final answer clearly indicated.* For each acceptable homework submitted, 0.50 bonus points will be added to your final trimester average. There are usually four homework sets per trimester. You may submit homework early or give it to a friend if you know that you will be absent. Because the answer key is made available shortly after the deadline, **late homework will not be eligible for the bonus under any circumstances.** Any student caught cutting an Advanced Chemistry class will be ineligible for the homework bonus for one trimester. Please make sure your homework is stapled and ready to be submitted before arriving to class on the day it is due.

Academic Honesty

While you may cooperate on homework assignments, study together and perform labs in small groups, your collaborations with other students end there – everything else is cheating. Since you are juniors, I expect you to understand that copying or paraphrasing from external sources without citation is plagiarism and that sharing information about tests and quizzes is cheating. I understand the desire to do well and the pressures all students face; however, none of this excuses cheating. My admiration and reference letters are reserved for students who earn their grades honestly. Students caught cheating in this class will be ineligible for the homework bonus for one trimester.

Class Participation and Deportment

The class will only be as good as everyone allows it to be. Respect for the instructor and for your fellow classmates must be observed at all times. Class participation will be worth 25 points. Do not assume you will be given the 25 points. Your participation in class discussions are essential and while “I don’t know” can be a reasonable answer, evasive responses will not get you far. If you don’t think you know an answer, tell me what you do know and we’ll figure it out together. I tend not to call on students who raise their hands, so you should be prepared to participate at all times.

Dr. Crane is not an office supply store - bring your own notebook, pens, paper and calculators.

Chemistry Department Policies

The following policies apply to core courses only. Electives (AP Chemistry, Organic Chemistry, etc.) may follow different policies at the teacher’s discretion.

Exams – Students are not permitted to leave the classroom with their exams at any time during or after the exam. Students wishing to review their exam for any reason must do so in the presence of a teacher. Students may not reproduce or copy any portion of the exams for any reason. Violation of this policy will be treated as an act of academic dishonesty.

Retests – Students may take an optional retest on any unit test (a retest is NOT offered for the common assessment exam). The retest score will be *averaged* with the original exam score with a cap of 80%. This retest will take place approximately one week following the original test date; each teacher will determine the specific date and time of the retest for his or her class. All students wanting to take the retest must attend the scheduled retest time.

Frequently Asked Question

I study really hard and do all the homework, but I never do well on the tests. What can I do?
 Learning chemistry will require your utmost attention. You are studying chemistry or you are talking on the cell phone or you are surfing the net, you cannot do two of these activities simultaneously. You must actively fight distractions. The homework and review problems only sample the kinds of questions you are asked to understand. Seek out more questions for practice. The study guides listed on the syllabus are excellent resources. Although homework is not due for each class, you are expected to review the material frequently.

Grading

For 1st and 2nd trimesters, your grade will be compiled as shown below.

Assessment	Total Points
Unit Test*	100
Project	75
CA Exam*	135
Quizzes	75
Participation	25
Total	410

*During the 3rd trimester we will substitute a second 100 point unit test for the CA Exam for a total of 375 points.

The trimester grade is the percentage of total points earned plus homework points.

The letter grade is determined as followed:

A	93.0+	B-	80.0 - 82.9	D+	67.0 - 69.9
A-	90.0 - 92.9	C+	77.0 - 79.9	D	63.0 - 66.9
B+	87.0 - 89.9	C	73.0 - 76.9	D-	60.0 - 62.9
B	83.0 - 86.9	C-	70.0 - 72.9	F	59.9 and below

Ex. Tests: 91 CA Exam: 113 Quizzes: 20, 14, 21, 18 Project: 68
 Participation: 20 Total points: 351
 Percentage: $85.6 + 1.5 \text{ homework points} = 87.1 = B+$

The final grade is the average of the three trimester numerical grades.

Because he is full of many great ideas, Dr. Crane reserves the right to change any portion of this management plan to suit his whims.

**Advanced Chemistry
Classroom Management Review Verification**

By signing below, I verify that I have reviewed the Classroom Management Plan for Advanced Chemistry.

Student Name: _____

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Parent Email (please print very neatly): _____

Date: _____

This form must be signed and returned before the end of school on Friday, September 12th. Failure to return this form will result in the loss of eligibility for the homework bonus points for first trimester.