

Welcome To Chemistry

About The Course: This course is designed as a trimester of basic chemical science. We will attempt to cover as many basic chemical principles as possible as we explore the mysteries of mixtures, elements, compounds, solutions and all their properties. We will learn to balance equations, identify unknowns, and do basic chemical analysis.

This course is a college preparatory laboratory science course. We will do as many labs as is possible. Science is sometimes a difficult subject to completely understand and you may from time to time experience difficulty. Mr. Traxler will be available for help before and after school almost everyday, if this does not work for your schedule, please talk to Mr. Traxler and he will do everything in his power to accommodate you.

Important: This course has lots of information in it that is absolutely necessary that you understand if you wish to be successful in subsequent chem. classes, therefore every assignment should be completed in the appropriate manner and every quiz/exam passed at 70% or better. Work is due when stated, **anything turned in late will immediately lose one half its value.** NO WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER ONE WEEK HAS PASSED!!!!

Grades: You will have the opportunity to earn an A, B, C, D or E. Your grade will be based upon labs, daily participation and work, mastery of quizzes, exams, and a portfolio.

Letter grades are assigned according to your overall percentage grade as follows:

A 90 -100% B 80 - 89% C 70 - 79% D 60-69% E 0 - 69%

(+) and (-) are given if you are within 3% of a grade, thus a 91% is an A- and 93.5% is an A.

Labs: The number of points for each lab will vary. Labs are very difficult to set up and often cannot be left out indefinitely. If you miss a lab you must make it up **immediately** or you jeopardize your grade.

Daily Work/Homework: There are many varied activities that we do in class. You will be provided time to complete these and they will be due promptly when called for. You can expect a few hours of homework each week. It is imperative that you learn to manage your time and NOT attempt to finish all work the night before it is due. You will find that some chemistry problems just plain require that you get help from you teacher, help that is not available the night before. This is one of the hardest and most valuable lessons that you can learn.

Quizzes: These may or may not be announced and will cover recent learning as well as laboratory concepts. **Exams:** These will encompass a larger scope of knowledge than quizzes.

Readiness for Class/Passes: Always come to class prepared with your binder, lab notebook, paper, pencil, pen, AND BOOK. Occasionally, you may need to leave the room for various reasons. If you do not have a pass in hand, you cannot leave!

Attendance: In order for you to obtain the most out of your education, regular attendance is very important. There are times when in class activities cannot be replicated and you will miss out because of it. Your grade will suffer. It is YOUR responsibility to contact me to find out what to do and to excuse any absences. You will be marked **TARDY** if you are not in your seat when the bell rings. Repeated tardiness may result in detention and suspension. Poor attendance is the number one reason student fail this class, chemistry has a very sequential curriculum, ideas building upon ideas.

If you choose to not attend (SKIP), then you have chosen to forfeit any points for that day, if we had a test that day you would receive a zero on that test, with no possibility of making up those points.

Food, Drink, Gum. NOT !!! Due to the chemicals we use this would be a very bad idea.

Behavior: You have all been in the school system for years. You all know what is expected. I fully expect rational adult behavior from all of you. As we are in a laboratory situation, it is very important for you to accept the necessary responsibility. If you choose not to you may be denied the opportunity to participate in labs. Naturally, respect for yourself and others is a must.

Lab Breakage: Breakage in labs will be your responsibility. As is true everywhere, if you break it you will pay for it. **The chemical stockroom is always off limits!**

Extra Credit: Will be offered from time to time, if you need it desperately you may arrange something special. Extra credit is designed to be something to attain a better grade, not to make up assignments missed due to your own lack of trying.

Academic Honesty: All students are expected to do their own work. Per MTHS policy, a first offense will result in a loss of grade points for the assignment with no possibility of make-up, parent contact. A second offense in ANY course at MTHS will result in a 3-10 day removal from class and parent contact. A third offense will result in removal from the class for the grading period. The MTHS definition of Academic Dishonesty includes, but is not limited to:

- Copying or lending assignments
- Communicating during tests
- Using notes in a situation where notes are not acceptable
- Individual or group plagiarism (intentional or unintentional)

Be aware that we teachers communicate with each other, if I see you copying assignments for other teachers I will let them know and they do the same for me.

Contact Information: I will be available for help almost everyday during tutorial and after school until at least 3:00pm. I have first period planning and will be in room 125. My voice mail is 425-431-5777, I try to check it everyday and get back immediately. My e-mail is traxlerj@edmonds.wednet.edu. I have website that can be accessed through the school site and am try to keep it up to date with assignments and due dates. I update grades on skyward on a regular basis.

Honors: If you are interested in obtaining an Honors grade for this class, please see Mr. Traxler as soon as possible. Basically, honors designation is considered one grade higher than an “A” and requires the corresponding amount of work. First semester Honors designation will consist mainly of an added problem set for each chapter, to achieve honors you will need to complete **all** of them. Partial completion will be added as extra credit.

Safety: I have listened to the discussion on lab safety and agree to act appropriately and safely in everything I do in this class. I understand that unsafe practices will not be tolerated and should I act in an unsafe manner Mr. Traxler will remove me from the lab and I may forfeit the points for the day and jeopardize my grade for the class.

Please sign and have a parent/guardian sign this syllabus acknowledging the requirements and expectations for this course.

(student)

date

(parent/guardian)

date

*Remember-Chemistry is life and life should
be fun.....enjoy!*