

# CHEMISTRY 1

South Fort Myers High School 2014-2015

Instructor: Helena Kashleva, Rm.207

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## **Course Description**

Students will work towards a comprehensive understanding of fundamental chemistry. This foundation will include central concepts concerning the structure, properties, and interaction of elements, and compounds. Through integration of learned concepts and developed investigative and problem solving skills, students will apply this foundation to develop an understanding of chemistry and how it affects their environment and their everyday lives.

Chemistry is a laboratory-based course. Major focus will be placed upon the understanding of science as an active process, developing problem solving and critical thinking skills. We will be doing science while learning methods and language that enable us to analyze and communicate our observations. Key component of this process is applying learned concepts to problem solving.

The nature of this course is that all the material builds on previously learned concepts and skills. Success depends on consistent work throughout the entire year.

The course requires basic math skills. All gaps in math should be closed. Help is available.

Chemistry is a challenging course. Students should expect to work hard and achieve success. Upon completion, students will be prepared for future study of science at high school or college level.

**Textbook** *Pearson Chemistry*, Florida Edition 2012. Prentice Hall.

## **Required Materials**

Each of the following items must be brought to class **every day**:

1. binder/ or section of a large binder dedicated to this subject
2. pen and/or pencil
3. notebook paper
4. four function calculator
5. Periodic Table that students will be given the first week.

## **Homework**

Homework will be given daily. Meaningful classroom learning can happen only if you study and practice at home. Homework helps you better understand concepts and prepares for tests. You have to complete homework consistently and on time. All homework assignments are due at the **beginning** of the next class period. No late work will be accepted. Homework will be graded for completion and/or effort. We will review homework assignments in class. If you have questions - ASK in the beginning of the class. Give every assignment your best effort.

## **Classwork**

Every class will start with a daily bell-ringer activity. Class work will range in structure from lecture and note taking to group and independent work. Students should expect to work and stay on task through the entire class period.

## **Class folder**

You will need to keep all your course notes, assignments and all the materials in an organized folder. You should review your folder while preparing for the tests. I will check folders on regular basis and give portfolio credits.

## **Tests**

There will be a test at the end of every chapter. There will be quizzes and other assessments throughout the course. Midterm and final exams are cumulative.

### **Attendance and Make-Up Policy**

Class attendance is critical for your success. If you have to be absent, talk to me immediately upon your return. Students are responsible for making up all the work they have missed. If you missed a test, expect to take it the day you return.

### **Cheating and Plagiarism**

This includes (but is not limited to) using help or materials not allowed on tests and submitting another person's work. Copying other people's work is not acceptable. If I discover that a student cheated on a test or plagiarized an assignment, all students involved will receive an automatic zero.

### **Labs**

This is a laboratory course and we will be doing lab activities. It is critical to follow safety rules during the labs. Failure to comply with laboratory rules may result in a zero for the lab where the incident took place.

### **Grading policy**

Major Assessments	40%
Minor Assessments and Labs	30%
Practice (Homework and Classwork)	30%

### **Parent/Guardian Contact**

You or your parents/guardians may contact me via phone (239-561-0060) or email (HelenaK@leeschools.net). We will be also communicating through educational website called Edmodo. I expect all my students to succeed. I am here to help.

### **Class Rules**

Our classroom environment must be comfortable to both learning and teaching. As your instructor, I promise to be fair, honest, approachable and respectful.

I expect the following from students:

1. Arrive on time and ready to learn.
2. Be prepared. Have all the required materials in every class (notebook paper, folder/binder, pen/pencil, four function calculator and Periodic Table).
3. Always complete assigned homework and turn it in at the beginning of the next class. Parents will be notified if homework is not turned in.
4. Pay attention, engage in class activities and stay on task during the entire class period. At the end of the period I will dismiss you, not the bell.
5. No food, drinks or chewing gum is allowed in this classroom.
6. No cell phones or other electronic devices are allowed in class. It is school policy that cell phones have to be silenced and put away.
7. Be respectful. You can talk or walk only if given permission. Do not distract other students.
8. Be kind to others with your words and actions.
9. Be responsible for your learning. Participate in the class. Do all the required work and ASK questions. Help is available!
10. We will be using Edmodo for class communication. Follow the rules of appropriate online behavior.

If you are having a personal crisis and have problem attending the class or doing the work, please see me and I will help you in any way I can. I want you to succeed in this class.