Chemistry - Ms. Radabaugh – SPRING 2016

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Welcome to Chemistry! Chemistry touches our lives every day and you will learn the fundamentals of this “central science”. This course is designed to prepare students for college coursework. Students will be introduced to background knowledge and gain skills necessary for future chemistry and science classes.

**Class Rules and Expectations:**

1. Students are responsible for their own learning. Ask questions and seek help as needed.
2. Be on time. Use the restroom/drinking fountains before class.
3. Come prepared to learn and participate.
4. Be respectful of EVERYONE in class. Act in a manner that allows everyone to learn.
5. Don’t cheat!
6. **ALL** electronics, including cell phones and headphones, are to be silenced and put away unless specified by the teacher.
7. ***No eating or drinking, other than of water in a bottle, is permitted in the classroom.* ABSOLUTELY NO EATING, FOOD, GUM OR DRINK OF ANY TYPE IS PERMITTED IN THE LAB AREA AT ANY TIME!** This is for your safety and health.
8. No headphones or cell phones are to be in the lab area.
9. Always work safely in the lab.
	1. No lab work can be performed without a signed safety contract.
	2. Do not endanger yourself or anyone else in the lab.
	3. Violation of safety rules or acting inappropriately in the lab will result in immediate removal from the lab and a grade of zero for the lab.

Follow guidelines set forth in the PNHS Student Handbook for student conduct.

**Supplies:**

* Notebook (or loose leaf paper) ( A folder or 3-ring binder is highly recommended to keep track of handouts, reference sheets and homework)
* Pen or pencil
* Scientific calculator (with logs and exponents capability; graphing capability is not required)

**Grading Policy:** Grades are weighted as follows:

Tests and quizzes - 50%

 Labs - 25%

 Homework - 10%

 Final Exam - 15%

**Homework:**

* Assigned after each class and due/graded the following class.
* **Late homework will not be accepted.**
* Homework is checked for completion and not accuracy. It is your responsibility to ask questions about concepts/problems you do not understand.
* If you are absent the day the homework is given or checked in, please use Google Classroom (I use Google Classroom rather than a website) or see me as soon as possible to get the homework assignment. You will be marked exempt in the grade book, but you still need to complete the assignment and check your answers with me to be sure you understand the material.

**Labs**:

* Labs will be graded based on participation and performance during the lab, neatness, accuracy and completeness.
* They are due at the beginning of the next class period.
* **Late labs are accepted the day after they are due ONLY (NOT THE NEXT CLASS PERIOD), and will be awarded a maximum of half credit.**
* **While lab data is collected with (a) partner(s), labs are YOUR work – they are not done as a team!**

**Tests and Quizzes:** Quizzes and tests are used to assess your knowledge of new vocabulary, facts and formulae. They are based on notes, practice problems and assigned reading. Tests will be given at the end of each unit, and will focus on problem-solving and applying concepts presented in class. Study for tests by reviewing your notes and completing review sheets. Also, review unit quizzes, homework and labs, reworking problems as you go.

* “Make-up” tests and quizzes are given to students who have missed a test or quiz may be different than those taken in class*. Missed tests/quizzes due to an excused absence must be made up* ***within one week*** *for credit.*

**Final Exam:** The spring final is cumulative and will cover material from both semesters of chemistry.

**Absences:** YOU are responsible for getting notes and materials from classes you miss. Make-up work is only accepted for excused absences and needs to be completed in the agreed upon time frame in order to receive credit. Check Google Classroom daily to see a recap of what we did in class and check for homework assignments.

**Extra Help:**

* Before School (usually by 7:10 a.m.)
* After school (until 3:15 p.m.)
* Ac Lab (except during freshman skills labs – sorry!)

\*Changes to this schedule are announced in class, as well as posted on Google Classroom!

**Cell phone Etiquette:**

* Cell phones must be silenced and put away during class unless otherwise specified. Please use common sense and courtesy.
* **Use of cell phones or failure to comply with stowing cell phones as directed during a test or quiz will result in a zero on the assessment***.*
* *If multiple warnings are issued for cell phone use in class, disciplinary action will be taken. This may include detention or an office referral.*

**Book:** *Chemistry*: *Matter and Change* (eBook – directions will be provided along with a code to access the textbook.

**Tips for Success in Chemistry:**

* Chemistry is the first science course that combines math and science. It does require work! Be sure to seek help and ask questions as soon as you possible. Concepts in chemistry build upon each other, so be sure to get help when you first have questions or issues.
* Do your homework ***every*** day. Homework is designed to practice and reinforce skills and concepts from class. Completing homework is the best way to help you learn and understand what you have questions about. This is also a great way to study for quizzes and exams.
* Take advantage of resources posted on Google Classroom. Check the posts daily. Homework assignments will also be posted on Classroom! Google Classroom is used versus a traditional website.
* Take notes in class. Vocabulary and calculations covered in class will be on quizzes and exams.
* Come to class every class period. It is difficult to catch up from a missed class/lab.
* Ask questions! Be sure to ask questions to ensure you understand how to work through the calculations and problems; understand what formula to use; how to work safely and effectively in the lab. If you are unsure, ASK!
* Seek help when needed. I am available during Ac Lab, and most days before and after school. Attempt your homework and figure out where you are struggling and make note of what is not understood. Also, *please* do not wait until the day before a test or quiz to get help.

I am looking forward to a great semester with you in Chemistry!!

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I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, have read and understand the policies and

(printed name)

procedures for Ms. Radabaugh’s chemistry class. **In addition, I pledge to:**

* Make it a point to be on time and in class.
* **Seek help** when I need it, not waiting until right before the test or a lab is due.
* Do my homework.
* Show up for tests.
* Stow electronics when in class.
* Sign up for and use Google classroom and keep up with assignments and due dates, and check in with the teacher regarding missed labs and assignments when absent.
* Help to create a cooperative and productive learning environment.
* Obey ALL safety policies and practices in the classroom and lab.

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 Student Signature Date

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 Parent/Guardian Signature Date