

Regents Chemistry

Fox Lane High School

What is Chemistry and why do most high school students take this class?

Chemists look at matter (anything with mass and volume) and study it. Everyone has a part of them that acts like a chemist. A person who picks up an object because it looks interesting is acting like a chemist. Unfortunately the answers we seek usually come down to the atoms that make up the object. This is when people may start to get turned off. Since none of us have ever seen an atom, why are we asked to study them? Of course there are also people who see this as a challenge, to study and learn about something so small they must use indirect observations.

Very few high school students pursue a career in chemistry, so why learn about it in high school? The easiest answer to this question is because learning chemistry will help you to better understand the world we live in. The other reason, and perhaps the more important, is to strengthen life-long skills. This class will require you to use math, technology, reasoning, and writing skills. Most of the problems you will be asked to solve have only one correct answer. Because of this you will need to follow the rules and pay attention to detail. Also a skill needed in the real world.

Teacher: Mr. Neumann

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Tests (50% of course grade): Tests will always be announced. All questions on a test will come from what we have done in class and lab. They will usually be given on a double period so you should not feel rushed. If you perform poorly, I do not give make up tests, so come the day of the test prepared.

Labs (30% of course grade): Once you complete a lab you will be required to answer all the questions that come with the lab. They will be due at the start of class the next time we have a double period. Try to get them done a day early in case you have questions. I will keep all labs that have been graded. All graded labs will be filed with the school for one year in case the New York State Education Department needs proof of your successful completion of lab work.

Grade	Completion	Accuracy
10 points	Lab is complete and on time	Most of the problems must be correct to earn credit
5 points	Lab is complete and is late	Most of the problems must be correct to earn credit
0 points	Incomplete labs	Most of the problems must be correct to earn credit

For many of the labs you do in class a quiz will be given to check for understanding of the lab. Lab quizzes will be given the day the lab is due. It will be graded out of 10 points. Your combined lab and lab quiz grade must be 13/20 or better for proof of successful completion of a lab.

Quizzes (10% of course grade): Most quizzes will be announced. I do not give make up quizzes, so come prepared.

Homework (10% of course grade): Homework is due at the start of class.

Grade	Completion	Accuracy
2 points	All problems must be completed on time to earn full credit	Most of the problems must be correct to earn full credit
1 point	More than 65% have been attempted on time	More than 65% of the problems are correct
0 points	Less than 65% of the problems have been attempted. Late homework.	Less than 65% of the problems are correct

Absences: If you miss a day of school it is your responsibility to make up the work you missed. All work not made up will be given a grade of zero and that grade will be used for calculating your average. Ask a classmate for notes and assignments. If you missed a test, quiz, or lab you will need to stay after school. All school rules will be enforced for absences and classes skipped. Most labs will remain set up for 5 school days after it is completed. If you miss a lab or fall behind you have 5 days to come in a make up the work. Do not attempt to simply copy missed work from you lab partner. Any work missed due to an illegal absence can not be made up.

Materials for class: In order to get the most from each class come prepared.

- Pen and Pencil
- Calculator
- Text Book (Prentice Hall, Chemistry)
- Notebook (3 ring binder works best, but I don't check)

Classroom Rules:

- Be in the classroom before the bell rings.
- Show respect for everyone and everything in the classroom.
- Come to class ready to learn and **NEVER** act in a way that will keep others from learning.
- Follow all safety rules for the lab.
- All cell phones must be turned off and out of site.

Personal Classroom Goal

It is my job and personal goal to provide you the student with a comfortable learning environment where you will be successful. It is my job to provide you with the instruction, assessment and encouragement needed for your success. I would hope you the student take full advantage of this learning environment by challenging yourself to work to your potential and enjoy the challenges of learning chemistry.

Student Signature _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____