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# Honors Chemistry II / AP Classroom Policies

# 34215X0 / 3A017X0

Mr. Will Benner

Fall 2017 / Spring 2017

Location: Wheatmore High School Room B114

[wbenner@randolph.k12.nc.us](mailto:wbenner@randolph.k12.nc.us)

336-476-1500x2114

**COURSE OVERVIEW:**

Honors Chemistry II and AP Chemistry are arranged in sequence over the course of an entire school year in order to prepare students for both the AP Chemistry exam and any first-year chemistry course offered in college. A brief overview of topics can be found later in the course outline. Honors Chemistry is a prerequisite to Honors Chemistry II. Honors Chemistry II, Math III, and a teacher/principal recommendation are prerequisite to AP Chemistry. Further information about the program of study that these courses fit within can be found at <http://www.randolph.k12.nc.us/?PN=Pages&SubP=Level1Page&L=2&DivisionID=19969&DepartmentID=22654&PageID=29891&ToggleSideNav=>

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| **COURSE MATERIALS:**  ¨      Composition book (grid preferred)  ¨      Loose Leaf Notebook Paper  ¨      3 Ring Binder  ¨      Black/Blue Pens  ¨      #2 Pencils for Tests  ¨      $5.00 Science Fee  ¨    Scientific Calculator (helpful for completing homework, smartphones & computers may also have this function)  ¨      Text:  Chemistry The Central Science 12th | **Mr. Benner’s Wish List:**   * Tissues * Expo Dry Erase Markers * Expo Dry Erase Erasers * Clorox Wipes * Hand Sanitizer |

**GRADING COMPONENTS:**

Throughout the semester, students will receive frequent and diverse opportunities to demonstrate competency in this subject area.

Honors Chemistry II Grading Scale:

* Homework 15%
* Lab Reports, Quizzes 35%
* Tests 50%

AP Chemistry Grading Scale:

* Homework 10%
* Lab Reports, Quizzes 30%
* Tests 60%

***Grade Meanings:***

Most students who aspire to take AP classes have made mostly A’s as their grades in the past. In this class, I try to make my grading in Honors Chemistry II and AP Chemistry reflective of the level of AP exam performance levels. Consider the information below.

Student and Parent Perceptions of Grades (intended to be humorous):

A = Acceptable, Average, Anticipated

B = Bad, Below average, Bleak

C = Caustic, Corrosive, Crying

D = Deplorable, Dastardly, Dead

F = there are no words to describe…

Teacher Intent of grades:

A = AP level 5 for subject = Excellent (top ~5-10% of test takers) = You could teach the course

B = AP level 4 for subject = Above Average (next ~20% of test takers) = You could tutor the course

C = AP level 3 for subject = Average (middle ~30% of test takers) = You have the same understanding as the average college student that takes the class.

D = AP level 2 for subject = Below Average (next ~20% of test takers) = Your understanding is minimal.

F = AP level 1 for subject = Failing (lowest ~20% of test takers) = You did not demonstrate understanding.

You will have to work hard for an A in both Honors Chemistry II and AP Chemistry. Do not procrastinate. Ask questions as you have them; do not wait until the day of the test because you need more “soak” time to understand concepts in this class.

Keep in mind that the AP test requires you to demonstrate your knowledge of the entire course in one sitting. This is much more difficult than demonstrating your knowledge of one unit on a classroom test. Historically, students with A’s and B’s on most of the unit tests were most likely to score a 3 or better on the AP exam.

***Most instruction in this course will be carried out through lecture. There will also be reading assignments within the textbook and nearly all homework will use*** [***www.masteringchemistry.com***](http://www.masteringchemistry.com) ***as the delivery and grading method. Quizzes will be based on the textbook reading and tests will consist almost entirely of released AP questions. More than 25% of the course time will be spent in lab. Pre-lab write-ups will be required for students to participate in lab. Grades will be updated weekly. The Remind app (operates via mobile app, text, or email) will be used as the primary means of communication for updates sent outside of the class meeting time.***

***Lab Activities:***

Lab activities will be done throughout the semester.  Participating in lab is a privilege.  If you act in a dangerous manner or fail to follow instructions, lab privileges for you will be suspended.  An alternate activity involving research will be assigned.  If you miss a lab, you will have an option to either make the lab up or write a 1 page research paper on the missed lab topic. Lab safety will be covered on the first day of class and violations may result in a numerical grade of zero for that lab assignment and report. Some lab reports will be graded formally. These will be announced well in advance. Proper attire for lab includes closed-toed shoes. Long hair should be tied back. A full discussion of lab safety is addressed on the safety agreement.

***Classroom Assignments and Homework:***

Assignments will be given during class to enhance comprehension and understanding of the daily lessons. Homework will be assigned on a regular basis and each student will be expected to prepare for the next day’s assignments. Students should complete all assignments. If a student does not complete his or her classwork or homework on time, the highest grade that work may receive is 69%.

***Quizzes:***

Quizzes will be given frequently and will usually be announced.  Quizzes will be short and will cover previously covered material.  If you keep an organized notebook, take adequate notes, complete class assignments and homework, and arrive to class promptly, you will succeed and quizzes will benefit your grades.

***Tests:***

Students generally will be tested once every two weeks.  Tests will be announced several days in advance.  If a student is absent the day before a previously announced test, they will still be expected to take the test.  Test questions will be a combination of multiple choice, problem solving, fill in the blank, matching, labeling of diagrams, short answer, and essay.  The questions will cover information from class notes, reading assignments in text, worksheets, vocabulary, and classroom activities.  All students will need to use #2 pencils when taking the tests.

**GRADING POLICY**

All assignments, projects, and lab reports should be completed by the assigned due date.  These assignments are a purposeful extension of what is learned in the classroom and each student will benefit greatly in doing their work.  A student with any unexcused absences must make up all work missed but will only receive 69% of the actual grade (WHS Student Handbook).

I will make myself available for tutoring most days before or after school. Students should ask me one day in advance in order to confirm that I will be available for tutoring.

Finally, to receive AP credit in the spring semester, students are required to take the AP Chemistry Exam. All AP exam fees are paid for by the school system.

**CLASSROOM RULES & PROCEDURES**

***Rules:***

1. Safety is of highest importance.
2. Be respectful of yourself, others, and your surroundings at all times.

***Consequences:***

1. Student/Teacher Conference
2. Parent/Guardian Contact
3. After-School Detention
4. Discipline Referral

***Specifics:***

1. Please be in your seats before the tardy bell rings; otherwise you will be counted tardy.  The WHS tardy policy is draconian.
2. You are expected to bring your materials to class everyday (book, pencil/pen, paper, notebook). The e-text is available online so you may leave your book in the room.
3. All pencils should be sharpened prior to the start bell for each class.  **Do not get up and distract the class if I am teaching.**
4. You are expected to be alert in class; therefore, I expect your head to be up at all times. **It is critical that you are active in this class—each student is expected to work.**
5. Respect is the key to success in my classroom.  Put-downs, foul language, and inappropriate comments/conversations will result in a write-up.  The term “shut-up” is not permitted.
6. Class will run bell to bell everyday—do not pack up early!
7. Hairbrushes, mirrors, make-up, lotions, etc. must not be seen in class.  They will be taken if out during class.
8. Bathroom visits will be allowed during all times except when the teacher is teaching. (Don’t ask me to use the restroom while I’m teaching unless it’s a real emergency.)
9. Students may be denied credit for this class should they exceed 5 absences.  In addition, parental contact will be made at 3 absences.
10. If you are absent for any reason, it is your responsibility to find out what you missed for the day.  Notes will be available online on my website. You may have to remind me to post them.
11. Work on your homework every night. If you have no homework, study and review.
12. You will receive interim/progress reports that will list your current grade and percentages.  These reports must be signed by a parent or guardian.
13. **Any form of cheating will automatically result in a ZERO without the opportunity for extra credit, retakes, or make-up work.** This includes but is not limited to copying answers, writing down answers or information when it is not permitted, plagiarizing, looking at others’ work, lending your work to be copied, etc.  If you cheat, you will receive a 0 on that particular assignment and will have your parent/guardian notified.
14. No whining.
15. All substitute teachers should be treated with respect.  I will ask for detailed reports of behavior, and there will be penalties for any problems.  All rules remain the same regardless of who is teaching.
16. Students are to follow all expectations listed in the Wheatmore High School Handbook.
17. Cell phones will be confiscated and given to an administrator if they are being used for any purpose other than a clearly defined assignment. Studies show that 99% of us can’t focus on two things at one time.
18. Only bottled drinks (no other food or drinks) will be allowed during class time.  Students should refrain from bringing all other food or drink into the classroom.

**COURSE OUTLINE (Tentative)**

This course is aligned with the course description found at <http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/apc/public/courses/teachers_corner/2119.html?excmpid=MTG243-PR-22-cd>

**Unit 1:  HC2: Introduction to Chemistry (2.5 weeks)**

**Unit 2:  HC2: Nuclear and Atomic Structure (2.5 weeks)**

**Unit 3:  HC2: Periodicity and Intro to Bonding (2.5 weeks)**

**Unit 4:  HC2: Covalent Bonding (2 weeks)**

**Unit 5:  HC2: Organic Chemistry (2 weeks)**

**Unit 6:  HC2: Predicting Reactions (1.5 weeks)**

**Unit 7:  HC2: Stoichiometry (1.5 weeks)**

**Unit 8: HC2: Thermochemistry (2.5 weeks)**

**Unit 9: AP: Gas, Liquids and Solids (1.5 weeks)**

**Unit 10: AP: Solutions (2.5 weeks)**

**Unit 11: AP: Kinetics (2 weeks)**

**Unit 12: AP: Equilibrium (2 weeks)**

**Unit 13: AP: Acids, Bases and Salts (2 weeks)**

**Unit 14: AP: Electrochemistry (2 weeks)**

**Unit 15: AP: Review for AP Exam (3-4 weeks)**

**\*\*\*AP Chemistry Exam: Monday, May 7, 2018\*\*\***