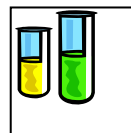




ADVANCED PLACEMENT CHEMISTRY!



INTRODUCTION

The Advanced Placement Chemistry course is intended to be the equivalent of the general chemistry course usually taken during the first college year. It is designed to follow a first year high school chemistry course and prepare you for AP Chemistry exam in May (every student must take this exam). The course stresses the importance of theoretical aspects of chemistry. Topics such as the structure of matter, kinetic theory of gases, chemical equilibria, chemical kinetics, and the basic concepts of thermodynamics will be covered in considerable depth.

SUPPLIES

cover for book
loose leaf notebook or folder for storing graded papers
composition book or 3-ring binder for formal lab reports
graph paper, notebook paper, pen, pencil
calculator with scientific notation, exponential, and log functions
old towel, hand soap

GRADING

The grading scale for this course will be as follows:

A = 94-100 B+ = 90-93 B = 84-89 C+ = 80-83
C = 74-79 D+ = 70-73 D = 64-69 F = below 64

Quarter grades are based on the following percentages:

55% **tests/quizzes**
35% **labs**
10% **daily work -- pop quizzes, homework, classwork, etc.**

As this is a college course, late work will not be accepted.

Tests and Quizzes

Tests (80-100 points) will be given two times a quarter. They are in the format of the AP Chemistry exam with a multiple-choice section and a free response section. Tests are lengthy (2 class periods) and therefore difficult to make up. Do not be absent on test days! If you miss a test you will be expected to make it up the next day you are in school. Few quizzes will be given throughout the year and are worth considerably less than tests.

Homework

Homework (10 points each) is given every night as a practice of the material that was covered in class. Completing every homework assignment to the best of your ability is essential to your success in AP Chemistry. Homework will be checked at the beginning of class for effort and completion. Occasionally homework will be collected and graded for credit.

Laboratory

The difference between college chemistry and the usual chemistry course is especially evident in the laboratory work. The AP exam includes questions based on experiences and skills students acquire in the laboratory -- for example, making observations of chemical substances and reactions; recording data; and calculating and interpreting

results based on quantitative data obtained. Lab guidelines are on the back of this sheet. Late lab reports carry a sizable point penalty.

Lab Guidelines

College credit for AP Chemistry is divided into two separate areas -- one for classroom and one for laboratory. Classroom credit is based on a student's score on the AP exam. Laboratory credit is often based on the respective college's review of the student's laboratory experiments and actual lab notebook. The colleges expect the student to have had experience using the computer-based analytical programs, equipment and apparatus that are found in the basic college chemistry lab today.

A record of each experiment done during the year will be kept in a laboratory notebook. Pre-lab assignments will be checked at the beginning of each lab. If the pre-lab assignment is not complete, the student will lose the points on the lab and will be unable to participate in lab that day. The first two pages of the notebook are to be reserved for the index. All other pages are to be numbered in the upper right-hand corner. All reports are to be done in blue or black ink. No erasures are to be made and no white-out may be used. Instead, draw a line through any errors.

Lab reports should include the following:

Headings	--	title of lab, your name, partner's name, date
Purpose	--	briefly describe what you hope to accomplish
Procedure	--	a paragraph or numbered steps describing how you will proceed. It should not be copied verbatim from the lab
Data	--	include qualitative and quantitative results; if available, a printed data sheet may be used
Observations	--	Record all observations directly into your lab notebook at the time of observation. Use charts, graphs, data tables, lists, illustrations, and precise written descriptions.
Analysis	--	answer all questions posed; do all indicated calculations and show samples of each
Conclusions	--	Write a paragraph in complete sentences discussing techniques used, interpreting overall lab results and discussing errors. Use the passive voice, and no opinions should be expressed in the conclusion!

Pre-labs should contain headings, purpose, procedure, data tables/sheets, and answers to pre-lab questions.

Labs will usually be worth 50 - 100 points. All lab partners are expected to have a complete lab report in their notebook. **Realize that I may collect only one lab book as a representative of the group's work.** Therefore it is imperative that ALL lab books are completed and partners agree with each other as to the content of their lab notebooks.

ATTENDANCE:

Be aware that being present and actively participating in class activities is essential. This is a fast paced class that assumes a good background in first year chemistry. All attendance policies of Langley High School and Fairfax County will be strictly followed.

Overall

It is my intent to make AP Chemistry as useful, interesting, and fun for you as possible, but be ready for hard work! Feel comfortable to ask questions, get special help when needed, and expand your horizons as you travel through the year. I am available after school until 3:00 and mornings before 7:20.

GOOD LUCK!!