

Bonita Vista High School

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Honors Chemistry & General Chemistry ~ Rm# 301

Resources: The Molecular Nature of Matter & Change ~ CK-12 ~ Multiple Resources



Course Description

Chemistry is a one-year science course that fulfills the Physical Science HS graduation requirement and the UC/CSU/College entrance laboratory science requirement. Chemistry requires a level of maturity and a disciplined approach to learning, therefore students may need additional support during the course. Honors Chemistry is an accelerated weighted course that is primarily based on the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) and is enriched with select Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) content.

In general, Chemistry is a subject in which concepts build on each other and information is referred to and applied throughout the year. Students should possess a strong foundation in algebra (IM1 with a grade of C or higher), grade-level reading comprehension, and strong organization/time-management skills to maximize their success in this course. Laboratory work requires students to follow proper safety procedures and manipulate equipment correctly as a necessary component in the Chemistry experience. Students need to pass a Lab Safety Test and complete a Lab Safety Contract signed by the parents/guardians prior to the first laboratory assignment.

Materials Needed:

- Pencils (no pens)
- Notebook Paper
- Calculator (Non-programmable, non-storage, non-internet)
- **DAILY CHARGED SCHOOL-ISSUED OR PERSONAL LAPTOP.** Uncharged devices may reduce citizenship grades.
- For lab days, students should wear close-toed shoes and hair bands.
- Students are financially responsible for materials checked out from the library. Please contact the library for questions.

Grading Criteria Guidelines

Grades will be assessed through a combination of formative and summative assessments. It is expected that students pass the semester with at least a C grade. The semester grade is a cumulative point scale with weighted categories. Any students with a D/F grade at the 12-week mark, may fail the semester. Please refer to the student handbook for breakdown of letter grades.

GRADES WILL BE UPDATED AT THE TEACHER'S DISCRETION FOR PARENTS AND STUDENTS.

GENERAL CHEMISTRY (Weighted Categories)				HONORS CHEMISTRY (Weighted Categories)			
Test / Performance Task	40%	Projects (Labs, Activities, etc)	10%	Test / Performance Task	40%	Projects (Labs, Activities, etc)	10%
Quizzes	30%	Classwork / Homework	10%	Quizzes	30%	Classwork / Homework	10%
Final Exam			10%	Final Exam			10%

Make-up & Late Work Guidelines:

- Late assignments will not be accepted after the due date unless the student was absent from class. Absences may be excused, unexcused, or the result of a school-related activity (e.g., athletics or other school-sponsored events). In these cases, students are expected to complete and submit missed work in accordance with the course make-up work policy.
- Students are expected to complete and submit all missed assignments within seven (7) calendar days or the original assignment date. Missed quizzes and tests must be completed within twenty-one (21) calendar days of the original assessment date. These timelines include weekends and holidays.
- Students are responsible for accessing, printing (if needed), and understanding all assignment requirements, including due dates from the website (www.bvhschemistrylab.com). Any required work must be submitted to the instructor by the stated deadline, either as a physical copy or electronically, as directed.
- Missed labs cannot be recreated or made up for absent students due to the nature of laboratory instruction, preparation, specialized materials, and availability.
- Individual extra credit assignments will not be provided and "Retakes" for assessments are at the discretion of the instructor. These "retakes" will require a mandatory "reteach" session and will not be allowed for full credit, but only a portion of the total grade.

Citizenship Grade Guidelines:

- All students are expected to comply with rules set forth by the instructor, Bonita Vista High School, the Sweetwater Union High School District, California Education Code, California state law, and United States federal law.
- This rubric will be used, **BUT NOT LIMITED TO ASSESSMENT FOR CITIZENSHIP GRADES.** Citizenship grades and additional criteria (classroom expectations) are at the instructor's discretion for assessment.
- **Tardy Policy:** If you are not in your assigned seat when the final instruction bell rings you could be considered late. Unverified absences and trancies will also lower your citizenship grade.

Citizenship Grading Policy Attendance Summary:

1 st 6 weeks – Progress Report 1			2 nd 6 weeks – Progress Report 2			3 rd 6 weeks – Semester Grades		
Grade	Tardies/Lates	Unexcused Absences	Grade	Tardies/Lates	Unexcused Absences	Grade	Tardies/Lates	Unexcused Absences
A	0-1	0	A	2	1	A	3	2
B	2	1	B	3	2	B	4	3
C	3	2	C	4	3	C	5	4
D	4	3	D	5	4	D	6	5
F	5 or more	4 or more	F	6 or more	5 or more	F	7 or more	6 or more

Bathroom Guidelines:

- Only (1) person out at a time for bathroom breaks.
- **SCHOOL RULE:** No bathroom passes during the first and last (15) minutes of any class.
- Students should not request to use the restroom during teacher instructions, assignment directions, or at the start of an activity.
- As a guideline, students must complete a portion of their work (at teachers discretion) for at least 30 minutes prior to leaving.

General Expectations & Guidelines

- No eating in class. **ALL DRINKS MUST BE IN A TIGHTLY SEALED CONTAINER!!** If your container drops, it must not spill.
- All electronics (excluding laptops) are prohibited in class unless stated by the teacher. This includes any audio listening devices. **STUDENT MUST HAVE SCHOOL ISSUED LAPTOPS FOR ONLINE ASSESSMENTS.**
- **THERE IS A STRICT NO CELLPHONE POLICY.** Per SUHSD Policy 5131.8 and CA Ed Code 51512: Phones must be silent and out of sight.
- Students will adhere to instructors' cell phone collection policy. Refusal to submit your cell phone will be considered defiance and result in a disciplinary action.. **CELLPHONES ARE ONLY PERMITTED DURING BREAK SESSIONS OR BY PERMISSION FROM THE TEACHER.** Devices will be confiscated and returned to the student at the teacher's discretion.
- Students are expected to adhere to the instructor's cell phone collection policy. Refusal to surrender a cell phone may result in disciplinary action. Cell phones may only be used during designated break periods with instructor's permission. Unauthorized devices may be confiscated and returned at the instructor's discretion.
- All students must remain in their assigned seats/groups/lab tables while working until the bell rings at the end of class.
- **RAISE YOUR HAND TO GET THE TEACHER'S ATTENTION. DO NOT APPROACH, GO BEHIND OR TOUCH ANYTHING ON THE TEACHER'S DESK WITHOUT PERMISSION.**
- Course guidelines are subject to change at the instructor's discretion, and the instructor's decisions are final in all matters.

Honesty Policy

Refer to the school policy in regards to cheating. While collaboration is necessary in this class at times, it is ALWAYS expected that all work be of original nature. This includes material from other classes. Remember to cite sources in your lab reports. Academic Dishonesty of any nature will not be tolerated. Such activities include but are not limited to plagiarism, copying other people's work, falsifying documents, "cheat sheets", etc. Any violation will result in an automatic "zero" for the entire assignment, a lowering of your citizenship grade, and possible other consequences. This includes the use of Artificial Intelligence to produce student work. IB/AP candidates will have all of their teachers and IB Coordinator notified of the incident. Continued enrollment in this course acknowledges your understanding of this policy.

Support and Interventions

- If you suspect any disability that might impair your chances at success, consult your instructor and counselor.
- I am available for tutoring at lunch and after school (with advanced notice.)
- I used guided notes allowing students to focus on listening and problem solving.
- Seating arrangements to meet the various needs of students. (visual, audio, distraction mitigation,...)
- Brain breaks to refresh the mind and body.
- Visual schedules of both daily and long range goals.
- Small group instruction for reteach sessions.
- Lectures also available in video format for students who need to review content at home (helpful for missed instruction).

Acknowledgement of Class Syllabus

Dear Student and Parent/Guardian,

Your child _____, is enrolled in **Honors Chemistry or General Chemistry**. Chemistry is an intense science course where your student will be challenged academically, physically, and emotionally. The concepts can be abstract. The math can be quite involved. The amount of time dedicated to studying for this class can be demanding. It is important for you to understand that completion of **all** assignments and **everyday attendance** significantly impacts your grade.

Please know that I will make every effort to provide your child with the academic support that they will need in the classroom. However, your child will also need your support at home. Here are some things you can do:

- Set Jupiter Grades to send daily grade updates. Review those notifications.
- Ask your child on a consistent basis about the activities in their class.
- Contact me if you have any questions. Jupiter message/Email is quickest, allow at least 48-72 hours for a reply.
- Provide your child with the appropriate materials they will need. A calendar to prioritize all of their activities.
- Provide some time and a quiet place for them to do their work *after they have done their chores*.

Additionally, it is expected that students behave appropriately and with respect at all times.

GOOD LUCK AND DO YOUR BEST! ~Mr. Rice

This syllabus is a contract among the teacher, student, and parent/guardian. Please make sure you have gone over it. If you have any questions, please feel free to send me an e-mail.

*WE have read and understood **Mr. Rice's** classroom and course policies. WE will honor these policies to the best of OUR abilities. Should any concerns arise, WE understand that WE may request for a parent-teacher conference to resolve the issue/problem at any time.*

Student Information

Print: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent Information

Print: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____