

Honors Chemistry 2026.27



Instructor: Vicki Strine

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Supply Fee: \$135 - includes extended session days (Due May 5, 2026)

Extended Sessions: August 6, 2026 & December 10, 2026

Prerequisites: Algebra I and Biology. Students need a strong, working knowledge of algebraic principles that are necessary to work chemistry problems.

Minimum class size: 10

Monthly Tuition - \$60 / month

(9 equal payments August - April)

Total Yearly Tuition - \$540

Course Description

This honors college-preparatory course uses the It's Not Rocket Science chemistry curriculum, which includes digital resources and video instruction. Students will explore the study of matter through a rigorous and engaging approach. The ten instructional units cover measurement and units, atoms and molecules, chemical bonds, chemical reactions, stoichiometry, states of matter, solutions, acids and bases, and thermochemistry. Numerous laboratory experiments will be conducted throughout the course to reinforce conceptual understanding and develop scientific reasoning skills. This course is recommended for students in grades 10–12.

Primary Course Resource

It's Not Rocket Science (digital resources and videos provided by instructor)

Additional Required Resources

HS Chemistry Solutions (digital documents provided by instructor)

Supplies

- Scientific calculator
- 3-ring binder with dividers, notebook paper
- Safety goggles/glasses
- Dry Erase Marker (darker color)

Course Expectations

The primary goal of this course is to support students in developing a strong understanding of core chemistry concepts through structured instruction, hands-on laboratory experiences, and ongoing assessment. Instruction will be guided by the It's Not Rocket Science chemistry

curriculum and its accompanying digital resources. Course units and laboratory investigations are paced to allow for meaningful mastery of each topic, with most units taking approximately two weeks to complete. Class time will serve three primary purposes: conducting laboratory experiments, engaging in direct instruction and guided review, and completing in-class quizzes and assessments.

Laboratory Experiments

Most labs will be completed during class on Tuesdays. We will conduct the experiment and record data and observations. Due to time constraints, some labs may be completed at home, assigned as small projects, or done as class demonstrations.

Course Instruction and Review

Depending on the unit and the needs of the class, select portions of the units will be reinforced through direct instruction, discussion, review, and other learning activities that will help students understand the scientific principles being covered. A portion of class time will be used to answer questions from the Study Guide before each test.

In-class Tests and Quizzes

Most testing will be parent-proctored at home, but some class time will be spent on short quizzes. The purpose of quizzes is to monitor the students' progress, provide in-class testing experience, and prepare students for upcoming tests.

Because our class time is limited to once-a-week meetings, it is vital that adequate daily study time takes place at home under the supervision of the parent. *The student cannot depend solely on class instruction to get all the concepts needed for successful completion of the course.*

Homework

Lesson plans will be provided to help students manage their homework and provide due dates for upcoming assignments and tests. Students should plan on spending at least one hour a day on chemistry in order to complete the weekly assignments. Homework will consist of questions and activities and will vary with each unit. Homework may consist of (but not limited to) the following:

Throughout the week, students will engage with course content through guided notes, practice worksheets, and study guides designed to support understanding and retention of key chemistry concepts. These materials are intended to help students actively process instruction, practice problem-solving skills, and prepare for assessments. Students are expected to review their work, make corrections as needed, and use these resources as preparation for quizzes, tests, and laboratory activities.

Occasionally, special assignments such as reports, projects, activities, experiments, or worksheets may be assigned. Due to some difficult concepts, extra problems may be assigned to provide additional review.

Lab Reports

Lab reports will vary throughout the year. For the majority of the labs, data collection will be done during class, but the rest of the lab (data analysis, conclusions, questions, etc.) will need to be completed at home due to time constraints. We will, however, be discussing the significance of all lab findings as a class. Lab reports will be evaluated on thoroughness, accuracy, and depth of scientific thought.

At-home Tests

Testing is the final at-home requirement that will need to be completed regularly. Tests will be sent via email and the student will be required to take the test under the supervision of a parent. Tests should be completed by the student in one sitting. Tests are NOT open book; therefore, adequate study time and preparation will be required in advance.

Assessments

Tests 45%

Labs/Projects 15%

Quizzes 25%

Exams 10%

Homework 5%

Summer Assignment

In order to complete the required coursework, assignments for Chemistry will begin late summer prior to the first week of classes. These assignments will be sent by email and should be completed before the first day of class.

Teacher Responsibility

Class time will be used to explain concepts, go over example problems, answer questions, and perform experiments. Weekly assignments will be posted on FACTS and Google Classroom. The instructor will respond to any questions in a timely manner.

Student Responsibility

Students are expected to complete weekly assignments that include watching instructional videos, completing guided notes, completing practice worksheets, and participating in laboratory activities. Students should come to class prepared, having completed all assigned work. If a student does not understand a concept or skill, it is their responsibility to communicate this to the teacher promptly so that support can be provided and progress can continue.

Parent Responsibility

Parents play an important role in supporting student success by maintaining awareness of student progress and helping students manage their time effectively. Parents are expected to review class notes and assignments weekly through FACTS and Google Classroom, proctor assessments at home as instructed, and review homework as needed. If parents observe signs that a student is struggling, they should communicate with the teacher promptly so concerns

can be addressed. It is important for students to stay current with assignments, as falling behind can make the material more difficult to manage. While the daily work requires diligence, the resulting proficiency allows students to complete assignments more efficiently as mastery develops.