

Academic Chemistry Syllabus

Hampton Bays High School 2014 - 2015

Miss Valenti

Instructor: Miss Marybeth Valenti

Email Address: mvalenti@hbschools.us

Phone Number: (631) 732-2110 ext. 3308

Website: <http://mvalenti.weebly.com>

Welcome!

Welcome to Academic Chemistry! Chemistry is the study of what is happening "behind the scenes" in the world around us. We will be delving past the microscopic world into the world of atoms and molecules. Chemistry is a challenging subject; however chemistry is also very fun and exciting! My goal for the year is to make you question the world around you and to love chemistry as much as I do!

My Expectations

Come to class prepared and on time. When the bell rings you should be seated and ready to work. You are accountable and responsible for yourself, your actions, and your learning – being prepared is the first step! I expect that ALL of your work will be YOUR work. No copying!

Respect every individual in the classroom. Every person has the right to learn. Though chemistry is a class of open discussion, no communication can occur when everyone is trying to speak at the same time! I expect you to raise your hand when you would like to add to the conversation.

Cell phones should be kept away. Technology is a very useful tool in the academic environment; however, if it is being used at inappropriate times for inappropriate reasons your electronic device will be confiscated.

Follow all lab safety guidelines. A safety contract will be sent home on the first day of school. This contract outlines proper attire and behavior while in a lab environment. You MUST sign this contract in order to participate in labs. You will be required to complete written alternative assignments in lieu of labs if the contract is not completed.

Be curious and ask questions. Curiosity is the fuel for experimentation and observation. If people never wondered and questioned the technological world as we know, it would not exist! Always ask why?!
In science, the question is sometimes more important than the answer.

Class Materials

Materials you MUST bring to class:

- ✓ 3-ring binder
- ✓ Pens and/or Pencils
- ✓ 4-Pack of Dry Erase Markers (for in class use)

Course Website

As stated above, my website is <http://mvalenti.weebly.com>. Here you will be able to find all of the documents for this course, as well as extra resources such as video tutorials and simulations to deepen understanding of some of the more abstract concepts.

Types of Assignments

- ✓ **Catalyst Exercises** – A catalyst speeds up a chemical reaction by lowering the amount of energy needed to start the reaction. Therefore, the daily catalyst exercise may review material we have learned or introduce new material. Your catalyst exercise should be recorded on the weekly "Catalyst Recording Sheet" which should be handed in every Friday.

- ✓ **Worksheets** – Worksheets in this class will consist of a combination of reading comprehension, multiple choice, short answer, and fill in the blank questions. They may be checked for completion and checked during class or submitted and graded.
- ✓ **Labs** – Labs may be completed in class to deepen understanding of chemistry topics. These will be completed as a class and will be submitted the same period that they are completed.
- ✓ **Quizzes/Tests** – Quizzes are given throughout each unit to measure understanding. Unit tests will be given at the end of each unit, generally one or two per quarter. Test and quiz corrections are due two days after the quiz is returned and reviewed.
- ✓ **Projects** – This class will be largely project based. Projects are designed to deepen your understanding of a particular chemistry topic. They will be completed and presented in class. Projects will be discussed more in depth as they come up during the year.
- ✓ **Homework** – Homework may be handed in or checked for completion. Homework will be kept to a minimum. **No late homework will be accepted.**

Grade Breakdown

Your quarterly grade will be based on the following categories:

Tests	30%
Quizzes	10%
Homework/Classwork	20%
Labs	10%
Projects	30%

Late Assignment Policy

- ✓ Homework is NOT accepted late unless you are absent the day it was due, then it is due the following day.
- ✓ When an assignment is given in class, a due date is assigned. If the assignment is turned in after this due date, the assignment loses 10% per day. Assignments for a specific unit cannot be turned in once the unit test has been given.

What if I am absent?

- ✓ You will find all of the missed documents with your name on them in the “Absent Student” bin located in the front of the classroom. A “Missed Test” or “Missed Lab” appointment card will be in the bin if you missed a test, quiz, or lab.
- ✓ *Homework*: one makeup day for each day you were absent.
- ✓ *Test/Quiz/Lab*: must be made up within two days of the absence.

Topic Outline

1. Tools of Chemistry
2. Physical Behavior of Matter
3. The Atom
4. Nuclear Chemistry
5. The Periodic Table
6. Solutions
7. Food Chemistry

“The most important thing in science is not so much to obtain new facts as to discover new ways of thinking about them.”

- William Lawrence Bragg

Please SIGN and DETACH this page. This must be handed in by Friday, September 5.

If you have any questions, concerns, or comments, please feel free to contact me at any time. I am more than happy to answer any questions and to work with you to facilitate learning in the classroom. My email address, classroom phone number, and course website information can be found on the first page of this syllabus.

Parents/Guardians: Please check the Parent Portal regularly. It will be updated at least once a week and will contain current grades and missing assignments. If you would like to receive class updates (e.g. upcoming test/quiz, homework, projects), please sign up for my Remind notifications. Instructions to register were sent home with the course welcome letter and can be found on my course website.

Students: Please visit my course website regularly. Here you will find the class documents and videos to further your understanding.

By signing below you are telling me that you clearly understand my classroom expectations and policies.

I look forward to working with you throughout the upcoming school year!

Sincerely,

Miss Marybeth Valenti

Student Name (print): _____ **Period:** _____

Student Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Name (printed): _____

Parent Email Address: _____

In addition to this form, please read and sign the Safety Contract. Students will not be allowed to perform labs until this contract has been submitted!