

Course Description

AP Chemistry is a course that covers material equivalent to freshman college chemistry. It is ideally taken in preparation for the AP Chemistry national exam offered in May 2016. There is an \$85(?) fee to take the exam, which is due end of March. This class is an in-depth study of the materials of the universe and the changes that these materials undergo, and includes a laboratory course at the University of Utah to give the students experience in a college lab environment for university credit. Most universities will also give university credit for freshman chemistry if a student earns a 3 or higher in the National exam. "Chemistry: Principles and Reactions," by Masterton and Hurley, is the college text used for this class and will be covered in its entirety. A major goal of AP chemistry is to develop sound problem solving and critical thinking skills that will be necessary for higher education and future employment. Students with an interest in biology, environmental science, engineering, medicine and numerous other professions can benefit greatly from this course.

Objectives

- To teach students the facts, formulas and principles that relate to the topics of chemistry as found in the National AP chemistry exam.
- To increase students' interest and curiosity about natural phenomena.
- To help students develop critical thinking and problem solving skills, not only to use in chemistry but also in everyday life.
- To teach students to communicate effectively using science language and reasoning.
- To present social and historical aspects of chemistry.

Learning activities

Discussions	Tests	Laboratory Exercises
Demonstrations	Quizzes	Worksheets

Supplies

Large three ring binder	#2 pencils, pens	Safety Goggles (\$5)
Loose-leaf paper	Calculator (scientific)	Lab Notebook (\$1)
Dividers	Lab Manual (\$15)	

Minimum Performance Requirements

The grade received in the class is independent of the AP exam score a student receives, as the official results are not posted until July 2012. As an advanced course there is a considerable amount of content to cover and students will need to be prepared for a significant time investment. Points can be earned from tests, assignments, labs, quizzes, good citizenship and attendance. In order to pass the course, the combined score must be greater than 60%.

Tests	50%	A = 90-100%	C = 70-75.9%
Assignments/Homework	40%	A ⁻ = 88-89.9%	C ⁻ = 68-69.9%
Review/Quizzes/Folder	10%	B ⁻ = 86-87.9%	D ⁺ = 66-67.9%
		B = 80-85.9%	D = 55-65.9%
		B ⁻ = 78-79.9%	D ⁻ = 50-54.9%
		C ⁺ = 76-77.9%	F = 50% and below

Final grades may be adjusted favorably to account for classroom behavior and participation.

Parents and students are able to access current grades and assignment information online through the East High School Homepage (<http://east.slcschools.org/>). For grades parents and students will be assigned a username and password on PowerSchool. As inputting student scores can be time consuming, please be patient and the grades will be updated on a regular basis. A progress report will also be issued after every test. Assignment information (including due dates), calendars and Power Points used in class can be accessed from my website. Choose "Our School", then "Directory" from the drop down menu. After going to the Science Department, click on "Vicky Mayall" and find the "Additional Resources" on the right side of the screen. Click on the "Website".

Assignments/Homework

For each chapter/unit an assignment sheet will be issued listing the problems to be completed and when they are due. These assignments will be collected at the beginning of the class period. If students arrive late to class their homework will not be accepted. To avoid "busywork" extra credit assignments, each student will automatically be given 10% extra credit for this portion of their grade. Therefore, **NO LATE WORK** will be accepted. Makeup work will only be given when an absence is excused with an official slip from the student service center. Students are responsible for obtaining the notes from another class member or from my link on the East High home-page and need to attempt the questions to turn in the day they return to school.

Tests

Tests will be given at the end of each unit of study (approximately every 2 chapters). They will be announced in advance and a review session offered after school prior to each test. Most will include a scantron section and a problem solving section. On test days, students must have at least one number two pencil and a calculator. Makeup tests will be given during non-class time (lunch times or after school) within one week of the student's return from EXCUSED ABSENCES ONLY.

We will be completing the text in the first three quarters of the year. After this point we will spend both class periods and out of class study sessions (to be arranged) working through practice problems from actual AP exam papers. The grade for the fourth quarter will be based on some of these problems which will be handed in for credit each class.

After the exam, there will be a final project on a topic each student's choice. We will also be able to perform some lab experiments for interest value.

Attendance

The nature of a chemistry class results in attendance being essential. Catching up on missed material can be extremely difficult without the teacher's explanation and demonstrations.

Absences

- Prior notification is expected where possible
- Students must have an excusal note written and signed by a parent/guardian – take note to SSC (Student Service Center) and bring the official slip to class to be recorded.
- Notes for sleeping in, babysitting, shopping, and extended lunches are not considered excused absences
- Check online for Power Points, Notes, Reading or Homework for the day missed
- Prior approval through the administration is mandatory for family vacations

Tardies

- Students must have an excusal note written and signed by a parent/guardian with a contact phone number to be admitted to class.
- Habitual tardiness, even with a note, means homework is unacceptable

Excuse notes will not be accepted after a week from the absence or tardy. Citations, resulting in detentions and/or fines, will be given when an absence or tardy is not excused.

Laboratories

In association with AP Chemistry course, there is a laboratory course offered at University of Utah beginning September. Students will be enrolled as U of U students. This provides many additional benefits, especially if they are planning to attend the university in the future. This course provides practical experience in a college environment and is necessary as the AP exam always has a lab based question. The university has resources to do labs that are beyond the scope of our high school lab and help prepare the students for the more rigorous university setting. Students attend the labs on a Tuesday evening or Saturday morning every two weeks for most of the school year. The cost of the lab is \$425, which significantly reduced from the college level price of more than \$1000. We will be doing some lab work actually at the high school in association with this class. There is a science class fee of \$20 toward resources and supplies that needs to be paid to the treasurer's office.

Safety

It may be possible during the year to supplement the U of U lab with some in class laboratory assignments. The National Science Teachers Association recommends that laboratory classes such as this one have 24 or fewer students, for safety reasons alone. There are inherent risks they may only be mitigated by each student being very careful. Failure to comply with safety procedures can result in removal from the lab.

Classroom Expectations

- A. Each student will assume the responsibility to arrive **on time** with the supplies needed each day. Valuable material can be missed and homework not accepted if a student arrives once the lecture has begun. **STUDENTS WILL NOT BE EXCUSED FROM CLASS TO GO TO THEIR LOCKERS FOR HOMEWORK OR SUPPLIES!!**
- B. Using the Hall Pass is a privilege that should be used sparingly. Students should **ask to use the pass** whenever possible and ideally not during lectures or demonstrations. Do not ask to use the pass at the beginning of class, as bathroom/drinking fountain stops should be made during the break.
- C. A score of **zero** will be given to any student cheating on any test, assignment or quiz.
- D. Students are expected to abide by the school dress code, which includes no tank tops, short shorts or skirts and no hats (except for religious head coverings).
- E. Cell phones, I-pods, games, mp3 players, and all other electronic devices not approved by the teacher are not to be used in during instructional time. These items will be confiscated until the **following day** and citations for detention/fines given.
- F. Food (including gum) is not allowed in class or the lab. The only drink allowed in the classroom is a water bottle as sodas, juices, smoothies and coffee can result in messy spills.
- G. Each student will demonstrate dignity and respect for all others in class, and show respect and care for school property and the property of others. Degrading disabling, ethnic, sexist, racist, homophobic remarks are not acceptable.

Tutoring and Study Skills

AP Chemistry can be a challenging subject and will require more effort than many other classes. As homework is given every class period, it is strongly recommended that students **work on the assignment the first night it is received**. If there are questions or concerns about the material there is then time to seek help. I am in my office during **First lunch** and **after-school**. If there is a special need, an appointment can be made to work on the topic in question. Other resources are also available for tutoring and help through the Community School office, private tutors and the National Honors Society. More information will be provided as definite schedules become available.

Please feel free to contact me regarding any questions or concerns. I will be more than willing to consider any suggestions that will help to make this class a great learning experience.

Cut here and keep for your records _____

East Homepage → Directory → Science → Vicky Mayall → My Website

Chemistry Website: <http://my.uen.org/myuen/54067>

Cut here and return portion below _____

AP CHEMISTRY

Period _____

I, _____ (print name) have had this disclosure document explained to me and am willing to abide by the conditions and responsibilities outlined.

Student's signature _____

Date ___ / ___ / ___

Parent's signature _____

_____ Yes, I will be attending the University of Utah Lab.

Tuesday/ Saturday

*Salt Lake City School District does not discriminate on the basis of age, color, disability, national origin, pregnancy, race, religion or sex