

Course Description

Honors Chemistry is an advanced version of the general chemistry course that will provide a more comprehensive coverage of chemical concepts with greater use of mathematical calculations. It addresses the composition, structure and properties of matter and the changes it undergoes. (State Core → <http://www.schools.utah.gov/curr/core>) This Honors course will be a foundation for other higher level science courses and AP Chemistry. The course includes a practical laboratory designed to help students gain basic laboratory skills and get experience in dealing with reactions. The text used is Holt, Reinhart and Winston's "Modern Chemistry" (ISBN: 0-03-056537-5) and will be supplemented with additional resources as needed.

Objectives

- A To teach students the facts, formulas and principles that relate to the topics of chemistry
- B To increase students' interest and curiosity about natural phenomena
- C To help students develop critical thinking and problem solving skills, not only to use in chemistry but in every day life
- D To teach students to communicate effectively using science language and reasoning
- E To present social and historical aspects of chemistry.

Learning activities

Discussions	Tests	Laboratory Exercises
Demonstrations	Videos	Internet Assignments
Worksheets	Games	Reports and Projects

Supplies

Three ring binder (soft or hard cover)	Scientific Calculator (may NOT use phone)
Dividers (4)	#2 pencils, pens
Loose leaf paper	highlighters/colored pencils (optional)

Minimum Performance Requirements

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 50%.

Tests	50%	A = 90-100%	C = 70-75.9%
Assignments/Homework	30%	A ⁻ = 88-89.9%	C ⁻ = 68-69.9%
Labs/Quizzes/Folder	20%	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.sleschools.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".

Tests

Tests will be given at the end of each unit of study (1or 2 chapters). They will be announced in advance and a review and pretest given prior. Each test will include a scantron section and a problem solving section. On test day 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.

Assignments/Homework

Assignments will be given **every class** that if not completed in class becomes homework. These assignments will be collected at the beginning of the next 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 request worksheets the day they return to school. The assignment will then be due the following class period.

Quizzes

Random quizzes will be given at the beginning of class. The questions will be taken from the previous class material or reading assignments. If not inside the classroom door when the tardy bell rings, no quiz paper will be given.

Folder

A three-ring binder is required for this class due to the volume of papers handed in and returned. Each test day the folders will be collected and a grade given. Keeping an organized folder is essential for successful learning and review. This folder may contain work from other classes as long as the chemistry section is clearly labeled.

Labs

With most topics there will be a practical laboratory exercise that will require a report to be submitted. Written makeup labs will be given when students miss a lab due to an excused absence. Each student and their lab partner will be given a lab drawer with all the equipment necessary for the labs. If items are lost or broken during the semester they will be charged for their replacement. There is a \$20 science class fee to cover consumables in the lab, which must be paid to the treasurer and the receipt brought to class to be checked off.

Safety

The National Science Teachers Association recommends that laboratory classes such as this one have 24 or fewer students, for safety reasons alone. Typically our chemistry classes have 38 students. Thus, there are inherent risks that may only mitigated by each student being very careful. Students will be required to pass a safety quiz and follow stringent safety guidelines when working in the laboratory. Failure to comply with safety procedures can result in removal from the lab and loss of points for the lab report.

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. Therefore, all efforts must be made to attend every class.

Absences

- Prior notification is **expected** for school related activities and scheduled appointments so work that will be missed can be collected in advance.
- 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.

Classroom Expectations

- Each student will assume the responsibility to arrive **on time** with the supplies needed each day. Valuable material can be missed and homework will NOT be 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!!**
- 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 and drinking fountain stops should be made during the break.
- A score of zero will be given to any student copying or cheating on any test, assignment or quiz.
- 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).
- Cell phones, I-pods, radios, 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.
- 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.
- 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

Chemistry can be a difficult subject for some students 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 help. The Community School office has tutors after school in the library (M-Th). Tutoring is also available free of charge through the Utah Chemistry Tutoring Program (UCTP) at the U of U on Thursday evenings. They have a Facebook page where you can sign up, or for more information email David Thomas at d.r.thomas@utah.edu or call at 801-585-3419.

When approached with a positive attitude chemistry can be both a challenging and rewarding class that provides great insights into understanding the workings of the world around us. Let's all have the goal of making this a great learning experience.

East Homepage → Directory → Science Dept → Vicky Mayall → Website
Chemistry Website: <http://my.uen.org/myuen/54067>