

PEP Chemistry
2023-2024 Syllabus
Tutor: Mrs. Amy Haney

Course Description

This is a first-year college preparatory chemistry course, which covers measurements and units, energy and heat, atoms and molecules, classification of matter, naming and writing chemical formulas, the periodic table, the mole concept, stoichiometry, atomic and molecular structure, molecular geometry, ionic and covalent bonding, acids and bases, solutions, the gas laws, thermodynamics, kinetics, chemical equilibrium, and reduction/oxidation reactions. The course will include lab experiments to learn basic lab skills, practice experiment procedures, and write lab reports. This course is considered a lab science.

Goals of this class:

- To gain a better understanding of the physical world by studying its small-scale parts (atoms) and how they interact
- To better appreciate the intricacy of God's creation
- To develop problem-solving skills

Preparing for Class

With classes meeting only two hours per week, preparation outside of class is essential to success. The pacing guide lists assignments and due dates. Chapter homework should be completed over the course of several days--not be put off until it is due. This will allow time for deeper learning and asking questions. Reading the textbook is not specifically assigned but is expected as students prepare for class and do homework.

Students should bring the following to every class:

- Textbook (*Addison-Wesley Chemistry, Revised 5th Edition*, by Wilbraham)
- Paper for taking notes
- Scientific calculator (not necessarily a graphing calculator)
- Pencil and eraser
- Materials listed in the pacing guide

Grading

Letter grades will be assigned at the end of each quarter with scores based on the following assignments:

- 40% Tests
- 27% Homework
- 18% Laboratory
- 15% Quizzes

Homework

Students should neatly complete homework in pencil or erasable ink. When an answer is more than a single word or a number with units, it should be answered with complete sentence(s) with correct grammar and punctuation. For calculations, all work should be shown. Parents will be provided with a key for each chapter's homework. At the parent's discretion, the parent may check the work against the key or allow the student to check his/her own work. In either case, a contrasting color of ink should be used to circle incorrect answers. Students should make corrections, asking for help when needed. A parent's signature will be required on each homework assignment, indicating that the parent has seen the completed, corrected homework.

Tests

Tests will be emailed to parents, who will proctor them at home. Tests will be closed-book, closed-note unless specified by the tutor. Each completed test is to be signed by a parent, sealed in an envelope, and then signed by a parent across the seal.

Quizzes

Quizzes will typically be given at the beginning of class each Wednesday. These will be over recent content, including reading/videos assigned for that day. On rare occasions, a quiz may be emailed to parents, completed at home, and returned in an envelope just like tests.

Laboratory

Students should prepare for each lab by reading the procedure and completing any pre-lab questions. For safety, everyone must wear safety goggles (provided) and shoes that cover feet entirely (no sandals). Long hair must be tied back, and loose-fitting or dangling clothing should not be worn. With preparation and safety, labs will be one of the most meaningful and fun parts of chemistry class.

Questions

Students and parents may contact Mrs. Haney any time by emailing hanypep@gmail.com. Expect a response within 24 hours with the exception of Sunday. An email sent on Saturday will probably receive a response the same day, but a reply is not guaranteed until Monday morning.

Late Work Policy

All assignments are due at the beginning of class. Assignments turned in one PEP meeting late will be penalized 20%. Assignments turned in two PEP meetings late (typically one week late) will be penalized 50%. Assignments will not be accepted beyond two PEP meetings late. Days that a student is absent are not counted as late days if the parent provides notification in a timely manner.

If a student has completed a homework assignment but does not have a parent's signature on it, the student may show Mrs. Haney the homework and email a scan of the signed homework that same day, receiving a 5% deduction. If missing signatures are a repeated issue, the privilege of turning in homework via email may be revoked.

Absences

If a student must be absent from class, a parent is expected to notify the PEP Site Administrator and tutor(s). In the case of a planned absence, a parent should make arrangements **beforehand** for their student to make up any class work, tests, or quizzes. Typically, work will be due when the student returns to class. In cases of unplanned absence (e.g., illness or family emergency), the parent or student may work with the tutor to adjust due dates based on the situation.

If a student is absent on the day a test is due, the parent should either turn in the test in the tutor's PEP mailbox or email a scanned copy of the completed test on the date it is due.

Students who are absent when a quiz is given in class will need to complete the quiz at home. A parent will need to scan the completed quiz and email it to the tutor before the student returns to PEP. (This allows for quick grading and helps the student to keep pace with the class.)

If a student is absent on the day of a lab activity, he/she will have an opportunity to make up this grade at the discretion of the tutor. If it is not reasonable to make up the lab, the student will be excused from completing this assignment.