

## Ruben S. Ayala High School

2022-2023 School Year

Welcome to Chemistry!

Instructor: Mr. Justin Cortez

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Response Time: I am committed to sending an email back within 24-48 hours.

Room: S107

### Online Platform being Used

Google Classroom and Google Meets (If Hybrid Schedule)

The students will be registered into google classroom. Assignments will be posted as materials (just in case the student is absent and wants to work on the assignment). Assignments that will be offered will be offered in two modes which will either be virtual/physical handout.

### I. Course Description

Welcome to Chemistry! Chemistry is a branch of science that deals with the form and properties of matter, substances, and reactions of matter, especially atomic and molecular systems. Because chemistry is relative and involves mathematics, a lot of students have trouble with these concepts. However, my goal is for you to understand the excitement of knowing and understanding the chemistry behind the natural world.

### II. Course Materials and Preparation

- Pen/Pencil
- Paper
- Textbook
- Calculator (Scientific Calculators Only/No Graphing Calculators)- NO CELL PHONES ALLOWED TO BE USED IN PLACE.
- Laptop (The student must bring their laptop every day. I check for understanding using technology during notetaking, e.g. Peardeck) Because of limited outlets, make sure the student fully charges the Chromebook completely before the school day. If the student does not have a Chromebook during engagement online activities, no credit will be given for their participation for that day.
- Individual Pocket Folder (This will serve as a way for students to store handouts and any graded assignments that will be handed out back to them. This does not need to be brought to school.)

### III. Course Policies and Procedures

**Electronic Device Policy:** Personal Cell Phone/Electronics may not be used in class. Within this course, we will be working with chemicals, liquids, fires, etc. that may destroy the electronics that you may have. It is not my responsibility if any electronics are broken in the process of labs.

### IV. Grading Policy/ Assessment

#### **Grade Categories:**

<b>Category Percentage</b>
<b>Summative Assessments (Unit Tests and Finals) 75%</b>
<b>Homework/Classwork Labs 20%</b>
<b>Concept Checks 5%</b>
<b>Total 100%</b>

#### **Understanding the Class Categories:**

**Tests:** These tests are usually 100 points, cover 1-2 chapters, and consist of multiple-choice and sometimes free-response questions. Partial credit is given on free-response questions.

- **Make up within 1 week of absence from the test date is allowed**
- **If the student missed the first test, then the student will have to retake the make up test**
- **No make up will be allowed for absences that are more than 1 week from the test date. In order to offset this, the student's score from the final will dictate the percentage grade from the missed test.**

**Comprehensive Exams/Finals:** A cumulative exam in multiple-choice and free-response will be taken each semester. A periodic table, as well as a polyatomic ions sheet, will also be provided for specific parts of the final.

**Labs:** In order for you to do the experiment, you will need to be able to pass the pre-lab quiz before attempting the experiment. If you did not pass the pre-lab quiz, you will not be able to participate in the experiment due to safety concerns and you will then work on the alternative assignment. The alternative assignment will be half credit when submitted on the suggested deadline/till the end of a unit. We will also have "Lab Activities" which

will be shorter in duration and might not require a pre-lab quiz.

- **Laboratory Safety:** Safety is our primary concern. This is why pre-lab quizzes are the pinnacle of success as students need to demonstrate their lab safety knowledge to limit the potential dangers **Horseplay or any kind within the lab will not be tolerated.** A zero for the activity and administrative referral are the usual repercussions.
- **Clean- Up:** In order to ensure success for all students, clean-up will be mandatory for all groups. I will be actively monitoring if a student cleans up after themselves after a lab activity for the next set of students to use after the class period. If a student does not clean up after an activity, a student's grade may be penalized.
- **No Eating Policy:** Since this is a class that requires the use of chemicals, eating food is **NOT RECOMMENDED** while classes are in session and will be **PROHIBITED** during lab activities
- **Drinking Policy:** Drinking beverages will be allowed in class as long as it is in a proper container with a lid that can prevent it from spilling. Beverages without a container must be put on the counters on the side to prevent possible spills

**Homework and Class Work:** This includes the following: classwork, homework, morning warm ups

- **Classwork/Homework:** Homework will include problems from the chapter supplemented or from worksheets as needed. Most assignments have a due date as soon after being given.
  - Classwork/Homework will be completed on loose-leaf paper or submitted online and will be graded based on both completion and correctness.
- **Warm-Ups:** The students will be expected to complete warm-ups to assess for content learning. This will be conducted online through the use of a Chromebook.

**Concept Checks:** The concept checks are usually scheduled throughout each unit that will be covered. The number of the concept checks will depend on the size/importance of the unit with the standards. In the case, **you miss a concept check, there is no make up opportunity. However, in order to offset this, the student's score from the upcoming unit test will dictate the percentage grade from the concept check.**

**Comprehensive Exams/Finals:** A cumulative exam in multiple-choice and free-response will be taken each semester. A periodic table, as well as a polyatomic ions sheet, will also be provided for specific parts of the final.

**Extra Credit:** Extra Credit is offered. However, extra credit opportunities will present itself. You may not ask to get extra credit or to get extra credit assignments.

**Renaissance Cards:** If you get a renaissance card, you may use any “**OOPS PASS**” to submit a late assignment for full credit after the suggested deadline which is at the day of a unit test. In addition, an “**OOPS PASS**” can potentially be used for a missed warm-up activity due to absences, tardiness, or missing Chromebook. A “**HOMEWORK PASS**” can be used to waive homework assignments that are 10 or 15 points or could potentially add the 15 points to any assignment that are 20 points or higher.

**Bulldog Bucks**

This will be given out to a student who demonstrates at least one of the three B’s (**Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Be Safe**) from the Classroom Matrix. The Bulldogs Bucks can be used similarly to the Renaissance Cards in which the students can potentially use a certain amount of Bulldog Bucks to obtain Mr. C’s version of an “OOPS” and a “Homework” Pass. These individualized passes will perform the same functions as to what was mentioned above from the Renaissance Cards.

- To used the **Oops Pass**, you must upload the **Oops Pass** in Google Classroom with the following assignment and hand me back the **Oops Pass** after
- To used the **Homework Pass**, you must upload the **Homework Pass** in Google Classroom with the following assignment and hand me back the **Homework Pass** after

Rewards	Amount of Bulldog Bucks Needed
OOPS PASS	3 Bulldog Bucks
Homework Pass	6 Bulldog Bucks

Any unused Mr. Cortez’s Oops Pass towards the end of the semester can be used as extra credit towards the homework category (**1 Oops Pass: 5 Extra Credit Homework Points** towards any assignments in the Homework Category)

**(\*\*No more than three Mr. Cortez’s Oops Pass can be used towards the end of the semester\*\*)**

Any unused Mr. Cortez’s Homework Pass towards the end of the semester can be used as extra credit towards the homework category (**1 Homework Pass: 15 Extra Credit Homework Points** towards any assignments in the Homework Category)

**(\*\*No more than three Mr. Cortez’s Homework Pass can be used towards the end of the semester\*\*)**

**\*\*\*\*\* You may not use the Renaissance Cards and Bulldogs Bucks for tests, labs/projects, or finals. \*\*\*\*\***

## Grading

<b>Grade Scale</b>	A+ 100% - 96.5%	B 86.4% - 82.5%	C- 72.5% - 69.5%	D 66.4% - 62.5%
	A: 96.4% - 92.5%	B- 82.4% - 79.5%	D+ 69.4% - 66.5%	D- 62.4% - 59.5%
	A: 92.4 % - 89.5%	C+ 79.4% - 76.5%		F <50.0 - 59.4%
	B+: 89.4% - 86.5 %	C 76.4% - 72.5%		
<b>Citizenship/ Work Habits Scale</b>	<b>O</b> <b>(Outstanding)</b>	<b>S</b> <b>(Satisfactory)</b>	<b>N</b> <b>(Needs Improvement)</b>	<b>U</b> <b>(Unsatisfactory)</b>

**Citizenship/Work Habits Scale Grade:** If no consistent behavioral/tardiness issues were documented throughout each semester, the student will get the corresponding Work Habit Grade based on their class grade (as shown on the chart above). If consistent issues persist such as cell phone use reminders, tardiness (5 times), and unruly behavior, the student will receive an “Unsatisfactory” mark for their Citizenship grade. If a student has many missing assignments (more than 5), a student will receive a “Needs Improvement” mark for their Work Habits Grade.

**Lowest Grade in the Class:** For a student who is considered “non-participatory” in which the student does not submit missing assignments and do poorly on the tests. The lowest

grade that a student will get is **50% or half credit on tests and assignments**. The Aeries grade will demonstrate a score of “zero” if these were not completed, however, the lowest overall grade a student can get in the class is a **50% (F)**.

**Late Work Policy:**

**LATE WORK WILL BE STILL BE ACCEPTED FOR FULL CREDIT TILL THE DAY OF THE TEST (NO LATER THAN 11:59 PM)**

A student may turn in late assignments within the same unit no later than 11:59 pm on the day of the unit test for **FULL CREDIT**. Any work submitted after the deadline (11:59 PM or later on the day of the unit test) will receive **NO CREDIT**. After the end of the unit, the student cannot turn in the assignment anymore that relates to that unit. All work must be completed by the due date (no later than 11:59 pm of the test date) to receive full credit. An assignment will have a suggested deadline which will be announced to the class via google classroom. It is recommended for the student to complete the assignment before the suggested deadline so that their grades can be updated with the work that they submitted. If a student is submitting a physical assignment that is considered late, the student must date and title the assignment as “**LATE**”.

**Absences:** If a student is absent on that specific day of the activity (e.g., ASB activities, sports activities, sickness), they can still submit their work for full credit no later than 11:59 pm of the Unit Test Date. Any submission after 11:59 pm of the Unit Test Date, will result in a score of zero.

# **My Motto: “Safe and Supportive Classroom Environment”**

**It is my goal to ensure that our classroom will be a safe and supportive environment. I would like to ask for your help and participation in making this possible.**

## **All following guidelines stem from our one rule:**

- **We will not pollute each other's environment; *possible sources of pollution being waste, graffiti, gum stalactites, vulgar language, excessively poor hygiene, etc.***
- **We recognize that many people have different learning styles and that our preferred style does not supersede that of another. Therefore, during the times when we are given a chance to work independently, those of us that need quiet to think will not be pestered by our neighbors, those that must collaborate with others may do so in a polite fashion.**
- **We realize that the academic efforts of others have intrinsic value that we will not degrade by theft or fraud. Cell phones are a primary tool in cheating and will not be tolerated within the classroom unless you have requested special permission from the instructor. If you have a valid reason to use it, ASK; I will usually allow it.**
- **We will not waste the time of others; this is frequently done by interrupting the class with a late arrival, an inappropriate outburst, or a derailment of the classes' topic of the moment into the realm of the unrelated, trivial, and off-subject.**
- **We appreciate that everyone has the right to ask questions, yet none of us should monopolize the class.**

## Mr. Cortez's CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS MATRIX

<b>A</b>	BE <i>Respectful</i>	BE <i>Responsible</i>	BE <i>Safe</i>
<b>CLASS SESSIONS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Be mindful of personal space</li> <li>Respect differing opinions</li> <li>Ask permission to leave your seat</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Arrive on time</li> <li>Sit down and talk quietly</li> <li>Prepare materials needed for the class</li> <li>Ask and Answer Questions</li> <li>Place cell phones away</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Place backpacks below tables and away from walkways.</li> <li>Clean/Sanitize class materials</li> <li>Maintain a safe distance</li> </ul>
<b>WHEN COLLABORATING</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Listen to everyone's opinions</li> <li>Use appropriate academic language</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stay on Task</li> <li>Be prepared to participate</li> <li>Be attentive and listen to others</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Follow lab safety rules</li> <li>Actively communicate directions</li> <li>Be aware of your surroundings</li> </ul>
<b>WORK AND ASSESSMENTS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Do your best work</li> <li>Exhibit academic honesty/ no copying</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read directions carefully</li> <li>Submit work on time</li> <li>Review and engage with learning objectives</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Focus on completing your own work</li> <li>Communicate with your teacher for additional help</li> </ul>

### VI. Consequences

#### **Academic dishonesty (cheating):**

**Minor infractions:** While you are expected to frequently work collaboratively, there is a big difference between working with someone and copying their work.

**Moderate infractions:** Falsifying a document (faking a stamp, putting a new title on an old assignment, putting your name on another person's paper, etc.) is a consciously committed act that will earn a zero for the document (and a "U" in citizenship).

**Major infractions:** Cheating on a test will always result in a score of zero and a parent conference.

**Second offense (does not apply to minor infractions):** student may not earn higher than a D- in the course.

**Turnitin.com:** Some of your work will be expected to be typed and submitted to the [Turnitin](#) website. Assignments shown to be plagiarized will be given half or zero credit, at my discretion.

**Violation of classroom rules** will first result in a warning, usually followed by a violation infraction. Minor and moderate violations will be documented after three minor violations are documented. The administration will be notified after the third violation.

**Cell Phones:** Occasionally permission will be given to the whole class for use of cell phones, usually for the purpose of documenting some demonstration or lab activity. If you ask me if you can take a picture of something (such as a long derivation made on the board, right before the end of class), then I usually say yes. Otherwise, cell phones will have to be put away inside a bag or be inserted into the numbered pouches with the corresponding Chem ID of the student during tests, quizzes, and

activities (POGILs, etc.).

### **Cell Phone Extra Credit Opportunity**

Each day a student comes to class, they are given the opportunity to surrender their phone in their designated numbered pouch which corresponds to their Chem ID numbers. If the student surrenders their phone at the beginning of the period and picks it up towards the end of class from their numbered pouches, they are given 1 point per day. By the end of the week, these points will be tabulated in which the extra points can then be added to any assignments in the **Homework/Classwork Category**

**(\*\*\* This extra credit opportunity will not be applicable if they put their phones in their backpacks or they leave it on their desks face down. \*\*\*)**

### **Restroom Policy**

In order for the student to go to the restroom during class time, a sign up sheet will have to be filled out which requires them to input their name, period, date, and the time for them to go out to the restroom. A hall pass will have to be taken with them at this moment and when he or she comes back, the hall pass has to be returned to its designated spot and the time has to be recorded on the timesheet. One person can only go **one at a time** and will have to wait for the other person to come back in order for them to fill out the sign up sheet.

The student can spend **no more than 10 minutes** in the restroom, and if the time has exceeded that, a call with security will have to be implemented in order to locate the student.

### **General Procedures**

**Labeling of work:** Every paper that you turn in should have a **title** at the center of the top line, and your **name** (printed), **period**, and the **date assigned** in the upper right corner. This is especially important for late work. If it is NOT properly written, I will not know which assignment is it which will involve you not receiving credit.

**Absences:** If you experience an excused absence, you may still receive credit as if you were present. Make sure you notify the instructor via email the day you were absent and which assignments were turned in late due to the absence.

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Student Name(Print):

Parent/Guardian Name (Print):

**I read and reviewed with my parents/guardians the terms and expectations for this course.**

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Parent/Guardian Signature/Date

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Student Signature/Date