

CP Chemistry

Wachusett Regional High School
Science Department
2011-2012 School Year

Instructor: Christina M. Ansell
Afterschool Help: Tues & Thurs until 4:00
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Room: D202/D204 **Office:** C218

Textbook: Modern Chemistry, Holt, 2002 Edition
Other Materials: Scientific Calculator, Notebook, Folder, Writing Utensils

WRHS Mission Statement: *The mission of the Wachusett Regional High School is commitment to an educational process that fosters independence and responsibility in our students. By offering diverse, challenging, academic programs and rich co-curricular activities, WRHS strives to provide students with the skills and knowledge to achieve their potential as life-long learners.*

Department Philosophy: *The Science department of Wachusett Regional High school strives for excellence in the science education of all its graduates. We recognize the fact that science is a human endeavor designed to achieve an increasingly comprehensive and reliable understanding of the human species and its environment. Scientific literacy is an important key to a functioning, technology-based society. The learning objectives of the science department are*

- (1) To instill and appreciation for the study of science as a human activity worthy of academic pursuit.*
 - (2) To provide a basic understanding of how nature works in both living (life science) and non-living (physical science) systems, and to show their interrelatedness.*
 - (3) To teach students the procedures and techniques used in scientific methodology (e.g. forming a hypothesis, conducting experiments, collecting and analyzing data to draw logical conclusions, etc.)*
 - (4) To challenge and stimulate students to use, refine and communicate their powers of creative thinking, problem recognition, and problem solving in scientific application of both hypothetical and real world situations.*
 - (5) To provide a strong foundation to help our graduates achieve some level of confidence and success in their introductory college classes.*
- The WRHS Science Curriculum is designed to provide all students the opportunity to meet the stated objectives in a logical, sequential comprehensive and varied manner.*

Science Department Homework Policy: *The WRHS Science Department believes that homework is necessary to help our students achieve at the high academic level necessary for college preparation. Schoolwork done outside of class time provides training in study habits, skills and discipline; it reinforces and increases background knowledge and conceptual understanding, and it provides experiences in problem solving and self-monitoring. In particular, it provides students with an opportunity for them to take personal responsibility for their own achievement.*

My Expectations: *For all students to acquire a basic knowledge of chemistry and understand how it applies to everyday life, to develop a general appreciation of science and chemistry, and to develop logical reasoning skills. I hope to achieve this through active learning. I encourage active participation during class and welcome any questions that arise. Notes are important but we will also engage in hands-on activities, projects, and web-based learning throughout the year. Chemistry is learned by doing. Homework problems and readings will be assigned to aid in learning concepts.*

Tentative Schedule:

Topics by Quarter			
Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
- Matter & Change	- Periodic Law	- Chemical Equations	- Molecular Composition
- Measurements & Cals	- Chemical Bonding	& Reactions	of Gases
- Atoms	- Chemical Formulas	- Stoichiometry	- Liquids & Solids
- Arrangements of Electrons	& Compounds	- Physical Characteristics of Gases	- Solutions/Ionic Solutions
			- Acids & Bases/pH

Cheating Policy: Cheating in any form, including the copying of homework and lab reports, is forbidden. Cheating will result in a zero grade for the assignment for the first and second offense. A third offense will result in a failing grade for the term.

Bathroom/Locker Policy: You will be given a set of passes at the beginning of each quarter. These are your responsibility to keep safe. You will not be allowed to go to your locker or the bathroom without a pass. As an incentive not to use or lose your passes, each remaining pass at the end of the quarter will be worth $\frac{1}{2}$ of an exam point.

Grading Policy:

Grades will be assigned based on a point total. Below are *average* point values.

Tests- 80 to 100 pts

Lab Reports- 20 pts

Projects- 100 pts

Quizzes- 15 to 35 pts

Homework- 5 to 15 pts

Writing Portfolio- 100pts/Qtr

Tests and Quizzes: Tests will be given at the end of each chapter. Tests will always be announced in advance and are usually worth quite a few points each. Quizzes may or may not be announced in advance and will be given as needed to check for understanding. **Make-ups:** If you are legitimately absent for a test or quiz, you have the same amount of days to make up the missed test as days missed. For example, if you were absent for three days, upon your return to school you have three days to take the missed test. **HOWEVER-** if the first missed day is the day of the test you will be expected to take the test on the day you return to school. See me for special circumstances. Work not made up on time gets a zero grade. Make-up tests will most likely differ in format/information than the original.

Laboratory: Lab reports will consist of data, calculations and questions based on the lab. **Make-ups:** If you **MUST** miss a lab you will have **ONE WEEK** to make up the lab. Materials for the labs cannot be left out indefinitely, therefore this deadline is absolute. Arrangements should be made with me to make up the lab after school. See me for special circumstances. Work not made up on time gets a zero grade. You will be required to keep a laboratory notebook in the form of a composition notebook. Please see handout for more details.

Homework: Homework is assigned to reinforce concepts and is graded on both effort and accuracy. Students should make every attempt to do all of their homework. It's an easy way to help your grade with very little effort as well as aid in the learning process. Homework will be spot checked throughout the chapter and graded on a $\sqrt{+}$, $\sqrt{}$, $\sqrt{-}$, 0 scale.

Projects: There will be approximately 1 major project per quarters throughout the year. In addition other smaller projects will be assigned throughout the year. Each project must be done according to a strict set of guidelines. Grading criteria, ie. rubrics, for each project will be distributed and discussed at the appropriate time.

Writing Portfolio: Yes you will be required to write in Chemistry class. Your writing portfolio will consist of your responses to questions posed in class. All questions will require full sentence responses some will also require calculations. Your responses will need to follow specific guidelines and will be placed into a provided writing folder.

Late Work Policy:

To be regarded on time, work must be completed by the beginning of the period on the day it is due.

Short homework assignments will be checked at the beginning of class. If you did not complete your work and we go over answers to the previous night's homework, you should copy answers while we check homework to serve as a review, but you will not get credit for having done your homework. If the homework is not gone over in class, you may turn it in the following day with a half credit late penalty.

Larger graded assignments including labs may be turned in late with a 10% penalty for each school day late (whether we meet or not). They will not be accepted after 5 days late. You may not work on late homework instead of the day's assignment. Attempts to do so will result in a zero for the late work.

Long term assignments (assignments made at least one week in advance) are due on the date specified, but may be turned in late with a 10% penalty for each school day late (whether we meet or not). They will not be accepted after 5 days late.

In case of excused absences, you will be excused from short homework assignments. For larger graded assignments you have two extra days not counting the day of your return to make-up the work. Long term assignments are due the day of your return from an excused absence. If you are in school but excused from this class, you must turn in long term assignments between classes or at the beginning of the day in order to not be penalized.

Work due on the day of an unexcused absence receives a grade of zero.

Classroom Rules:

1. Be in your assigned seat and ready to work when the bell rings.
3 tardies = 45 minute detention
2. Bring required materials to every class, unless told otherwise by the teacher.
3. Do not eat or drink in class unless you have been given special permission.
WATER is permitted ONLY in the classroom section.
4. Talk only when permitted and keep it classroom appropriate.
5. Respect yourself, your classmates, and your teacher.
6. Purses and Backpacks will be placed in the designated area during class
7. Hats, calculator covers, and pencil cases are not permitted out during testing.
8. Use polite speech and body language and treat everyone and their property respectfully.
- #9. Follow all rules outlined in the safety contract. If unsafe practices are routinely disobeyed you will be removed from the lab and possible the course. Be safe.
- *10. You are responsible for knowing and following all rules set forth in the student handbook.

Consequences for rule breaking:

- *If a **school rule** is broken you will be referred to **administration** for discipline.
- #If a **critical safety rule** is broken you will be referred to **administration** for discipline.
- #If a **non-critical safety rule** is broken you will be assigned a **45min teacher detention**.

If a **classroom rule** is broken the following steps will be taken:

- 1st offense: Warning either verbal or written
- 2nd offense: 30 minute teacher detention
- 3rd offense: 60 minute teacher detention

Once you have read this syllabus please sign and date below to indicate that you are aware of all of the information contained within it, and therefore also responsible for all information. Please give this to your parent/guardian to read and sign as well. The bottom portion of this sheet will be collected and kept as a record.

Student _____

Parent/Guardian _____

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Student Signature _____

Printed Student Name _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____