

GRANADA HILLS CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL

Honors Chemistry Course Syllabus

Our Mission

Granada Hills Charter High School will provide a positive student-centered environment in which all students will develop academic skills, practical skills, and attitudes to enable them to be successful lifelong learners and productive, responsible citizens in a diverse society. We pledge our resources to create a school where all students are actively engaged in the process of learning in a multicultural, multilingual setting.

Expected Schoolwide Learning Results (ESLRS)

Every student who graduates from GHCHS will be:

- An Effective Communicator, able to read, write, converse and listen for a variety of purposes
- An Information Manager, able to locate, access, organize, evaluate and apply information in a complex and technological world
- A Problem Solver, able to apply a variety of thinking, creative and computing skills to produce solutions for practical and theoretical problems
- A Productive Member of Society, able to demonstrate healthy, responsible behavior and to work collaboratively and respectfully in a linguistically and culturally diverse community
- A Lifelong Learner, able to set educational and career goals, to develop a realistic strategy to achieve those goals and to apply content knowledge and critical thinking skills to adapt to a rapidly changing environment

Course Title: Honors Chemistry

Teacher's Name: Judith A. Flint Baumwirt

Textbooks: CHEMISTRY: The Central Science – Brown, LeMay and Bursten, 10th Edition

Major Emphasis of the Course: The goals and objectives of this course align with the California State Content Standards for Honors Chemistry. The Content Standards and State Frameworks can be found on the Internet at: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/be/st/ss/documents/sciencestnd.pdf>. Reading and Writing Standards are a part of every Course curriculum. In addition to course work and tests, Core and Benchmark assignments will be used to assess student attainment of the Standards.

Chemistry is a search for knowledge of the molecular world around us. It is the study of matter and asks such questions as: what are substances made of, how are their properties related to their composition and how does one substance interact with another? The major emphasis of the course is to introduce problem solving, laboratory investigations and measuring techniques to the mole concept, models of gases, liquids and solids and of the atom itself. Matter will be classified based on both physical and chemical properties. As this is an introductory chemistry course it is important to establish a working scientific vocabulary between student, teacher and text. In addition, student projects and activities will focus on the Granada Hills Charter High School Expected School-wide Learning Results which will contribute to the development of each student becoming an effective communicator, an information manager, a problem solver, a productive member of society and a life-long learner.

Prerequisites and Recommendations:

The University of California and the California State University System has chosen chemistry as a college entrance requirement due to the critical thinking and application of previously learned concepts that are required in this course. The ability to apply mathematical concepts to the practical problems of chemistry can be quite challenging. Strong Algebra computation skills and competent word problem solving skills are necessary for success in the course. Prerequisites for placement in Honors Chemistry AB requires the successful completion (B or above) of Honors level Algebra I, Algebra II/Trigonometry *or above* and Honors Biology AB with a B or better to ensure success in this very rigorous course, Successful completion of this course is preparatory for recommended placement in Advanced Placement Chemistry and/or the ability to successfully test and place directly into freshman core chemistry at the college or university level.

Course Expectations: All GHCHS teachers expect students to conform to the **GHCHS Attendance Policy, Standards of Student Behavior, Standards of Conduct, Dress Code and the Academic Integrity Policy**. These policies can be found on the GHCHS website on the Internet at <http://www.ghchs.com> and in the Parent-Student Handbook. Please note that extra credit assignments are prohibited at GHCHS.

In addition, this Course has the following expectations:

Classroom Supplies	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A permanently bound composition book containing graph paper (Quadrille Ruled) retained exclusively for use in this class, 2. Loose-leaf notebook paper for homework and in class assignments and a separate Chemistry section in a standard 3-ring binder, and 3. A Pen, pencil, one red pen, one highlighter, small package of colored pencils (min. 4-colors) and one dry erase marker. Glue Stick recommended 4. A Standard Scientific Calculator. NOTE: <i>NO</i> graphing calculators allowed on any assessment. 										
Course of Study and Targeted Standards	<p>All Content Standards for Chemistry identified by the State of California will be addressed at the Honors level. This is a year-long course taught in two consecutive semesters with a cumulative final exam and topics taught in the following general sequence:</p> <p>Fall Semester: Matter and Measurement, Atoms, Molecules and Ions-Atomic Structure, Nuclear chemistry, Nomenclature including basic Organic, Periodic Properties, Conservation of Matter and Stoichiometry, Aqueous Reactions, Acids and Bases and Solution Stoichiometry.</p> <p>Spring Semester: Continued Acid-base Stoichiometry and pH, Thermochemistry, Electronic structure, Chemical Bonding, Molecular Geometry, Gases, Intermolecular Forces, Liquids and Solids, Kinetics, Reaction Rates, Equilibrium and Acid-Base Equilibria, Beginning Organic and Biochemistry skills.</p>										
Honors Chemistry Common Grading Policy	<p>A. Graded work will consist of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>EXAMS</u> – Each test will cover reading assignments, lecture notes, homework assignments, and any lab or group activity. The test questions may be multiple choice, matching, fill-in, true and false, short answer and/or essay. The course concludes with a cumulative Final Exam. 2. <u>QUIZZES</u> – may be announced or unannounced. Each quiz will be approximately 2-5 questions, and will be intermittently. They are to be retained in your notebook binder. 3. <u>HOMEWORK AND IN CLASS ASSIGNMENTS</u> – Reading Summaries, Outlines, Problem-Solving, Laboratory Design and/or Assessment, Project Development and Brainstorming activities. Class time will be devoted to lectures, labs, demonstrations, audio-visuals, quizzes, tests, student written representations of chemical concepts and review. 4. <u>LAB BOOK/COMP BOOK</u> – Students are to maintain chronologically dated, organized, legible, daily lecture notes, concept summaries, lab activities, and data tabulation as well as journal entries in the required Comp Book (Lab Notebook). This book will contain fully numbered pages, a Table of Contents, a complete, dated list of all quizzes, exams, laboratories and activities given with an accompanying tally of all points earned. Journal entries will be required upon completion of any lecture-based instruction or any chemical demonstrations conducted in class as well as throughout notes to show evidence of review.. The Lab/Comp Books will be assessed both on a short-term basis as well as collected for major review and grading at least one to two times a semester. Parents are encouraged to review their student's comp book to keep abreast of student progress. 5. <u>FORMAL LAB REPORTS, PROJECTS AND PRESENTATIONS</u> – Formal Laboratory Write-Ups including research components, bibliography and abstracts will be assigned intermittently throughout the semester. A variety of additional projects both individual and group will also be assigned to illustrate and reinforce concepts. 6. <u>CLASS PARTICIPATION</u> – Active student participation in classroom discussion, laboratory, problem solving and appropriate class activities is required and will be considered in performance and assessment of learning. <table border="1" data-bbox="391 1398 1377 1545"> <tr> <td>50%</td> <td>Exams</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10%</td> <td>Quizzes</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5%</td> <td>Homework/In Class Assignments</td> </tr> <tr> <td>25%</td> <td>Lab Book/Comp Book Portfolio, Labs and Lab Activities and Journal Entries</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10%</td> <td>Formal Lab Reports, Special Projects and Presentations</td> </tr> </table> <p>B. Grading Scale. All work will be graded on a percentage basis, using the following scale.</p> <p>A – 90-100% B – 80-89% C – 70-79% D – 60-69% F – 59 and below</p>	50%	Exams	10%	Quizzes	5%	Homework/In Class Assignments	25%	Lab Book/Comp Book Portfolio, Labs and Lab Activities and Journal Entries	10%	Formal Lab Reports, Special Projects and Presentations
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Homework	<p><u>HOMEWORK/ IN CLASS ASSIGNMENTS</u> – Homework will be assigned 4 or more nights per week and retained in a 3-ring standard notebook in chronological order in an appropriately identified section titled: CHEMISTRY.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homework is to be the student's own work and will require <u>showing all steps in obtaining the answer</u> to receive credit. 										

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Homework (cont'd)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assignments are posted online at the course calendar as well as in class so absences for any reason will not excuse a student from an assignment. • Homework is assumed to be due daily but may be collected intermittently with the student's name, period and the assignment listed in the header. • Should the student not have the completed assignment at the time of collection no points will be earned for that homework assignment. • Late homework will not be accepted unless the student was legally absent on the due date.
Class Rules	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In order to avoid students breaking a huge list of hard and fast rules, the most important is that each person is expected to respect the rights and dignity of everyone in the classroom. As in business, the classroom is both the workplace of the instructor and the student and behavior should be appropriate to this environment. • Students are to enter the classroom quietly, place all personal materials/cell phone (OFF) with backpacks in the storage areas provided and retain <i>only materials required for this course</i> on their desk. • Class begins promptly with students seated noting the procedure and/or assignment identified on the board in their comp books prior to the bell signifying the beginning of the period.
Laboratory Guidelines	<p>Laboratory Procedures: The ability to observe, collect, tabulate and graph data, and to draw meaningful conclusions are all part of the laboratory experience and are vital to a chemistry class. Every student must get involved in real laboratory situations in order to understand the underlying principles of science. Because of the importance of experimentation, certain rules and guidelines must be followed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students must complete and return the Safety Contract to be eligible to participate in any laboratory activity. <p>Laboratory procedures and descriptions will be provided to students in advance of the lab for the express purpose of reading and understanding the full procedure and objective of the lab activity prior to entering the laboratory setting. Performance on Prelab quizzes given the day of the lab activity may exclude students from participation in the lab activity as they are provided as an indication of lab activity preparedness. In some instances laboratory make-ups will be denied when a lack of preparation is evident and the student will receive no credit for the activity. Laboratory make-ups will only be available during lunch on after school at the instructor's convenience and discretion.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All students will be assigned to a lab group and station for each activity on a rotational basis. 2. Since labs involve equipment and supplies that are in short supply and high demand, occasional labs cannot be made up beyond the week (or the day or two following) in which they are performed by the class and in some instances depending upon materials needed or consumed may not be available for makeup. 3. Misbehavior in the lab setting will not be tolerated and will result in suspension and/or possible expulsion. 4. Students are responsible for breakage and losses and will be required to pay for damages at the discretion of the instructor. 5. It is extremely important that instructions be followed as closely as possible. It is the student's responsibility to obtain any needed clarification prior to beginning the lab activity or entering the laboratory area. 6. Laboratory Safety Rules shall be explicitly followed and will be posted in the classroom. 7. In some instances, students may share the lab data collected within their group <u>however lab reporting, research and written assignments are independent</u>, NOT GROUP WORK.
Support Schedule	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All homework assignments, tutorials, available class notes and other materials will be posted as needed on the course calendar. • In addition, students will have access with the publishers online textbook support website. • Students are encouraged to form collaborative study groups early in the semester. • Tutoring will be available on Monday and Wednesdays after school in the C-Building complex and at lunch on a rotational basis by the chemistry teaching staff. • Teacher Office Hours will be posted after the first week of each semester.
Communication with Parents and Students	<p>Parents are encouraged to communicate with the instructor via email however, to ensure a response, please <u>cite the student's name and period in the subject line</u> of the email and send to jbaumwirt@ghchs.com.</p> <p>Parents are expected to sign up for ParentConnect in the Counseling office to enable them to track their son or daughter's progress in Chemistry on a regular basis.</p> <p>Email communication between students and instructor will only be acknowledged through the legally assigned gaggles account.</p>

Digital Photography/Videotaping of Students

On occasion, students will be photographed or videotaped performing chemistry labs or demonstrations for educational purposes. Within GHCHS guidelines, permission forms will be distributed to parents and kept on file to allow these images to be used in instruction and/or to appear on our chemistry class website, school website or educational publication.

Retention of Student Work

In that not all homework assignments may be collected or in some instances returned, it is important to keep track of things. No grade appeals will be considered unless the student has kept his own records to check against the teacher's records. Students are pre-warned to retain **all assignments**, handouts, laboratories and (returned) quizzes and exams until the end of the semester, since most of the material to be learned is cumulative and they could prove to be valuable resource papers. Computerized record keeping may become flawed therefore students may be asked to resubmit previously recorded papers on occasion.

Exams and Quizzes:

Notification of exam dates will be given at least 3 days in advance. Quizzes may be given at any time and may have no advance warning. Make-up opportunities for missed quizzes are limited as many quizzes are given on an impromptu basis, so quiz averages may be utilized for grading purposes

Any student missing an exam due to an excused absence will be provided the opportunity to make-up the exam on the first day of return. Make-up exams may be provided in an alternative format to maintain equity in testing (essay, free response, etc.). If a student is absent more than once on a scheduled exam day *without prearrangement and notification*, the instructor will, as a matter of procedure, request a parent-teacher conference to discuss testing equity issues. .

Plagiarism: Please note that the GHCHS Academic Integrity Guidelines are strictly obeyed. In general, unless an assignment or project is identified specifically as "group work," in the description and rubric design, students are to work independently.

Ms. J. Flint Baumwirt (Mrs. "B")
Chemistry Instructor
Science Department Chairperson
Granada Hills Charter High School
jbaumwirt@ghchs.com

Course Homework Website:
<http://granadahills.groupfusion.net>
http://my.calendars.net/honchem_mrsb

NOTE: STUDENTS ARE TO RETAIN THIS COURSE DESCRIPTION, THE LAB SAFETY CONTRACT AND THE CALIFORNIA CONTENT STANDARDS IN CHEMISTRY IN THEIR 3-RING BINDER THROUGHOUT THE SEMESTER FOR FUTURE REFERENCE.

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DETACH AND RETURN WITH SIGNATURES TO TEACHER BY: Friday, August 22, 2008

I acknowledge receiving a copy of the Course Syllabus for **Honors Chemistry** and am aware of the supporting course website and assignment calendar is located at:

<http://granadahills.groupfusion.net> and http://my.calendars.net/honchem_mrsb

Class Period _____

Student's First Name _____ Student's Last Name _____

Student's Signature _____

Parent's Signature _____ Date _____