

Honors Chemistry Syllabus

Mr. Boss

nboss@scyhigh.org

Welcome to Chemistry. I look forward to getting to know you and introducing you to the study of matter! I hope that you will enjoy learning about how chemistry relates to our everyday lives! Your primary goal in this class as students will be to learn the concepts of chemistry through independent practice, hands on lab activities, group discussions, and the development of quality study habits.

****Mr. Bosses Commitments:***

I will never try to trick you, but instead will make sure you know what you will need to know on exams, etc.

I will challenge and push you academically.

I will always treat you with respect.

I will strive to make this class fun; my goal is for you to learn and enjoy doing it.

I will be available whenever you need me for additional help, before school, after school, or at lunch.

Course Description:

Chemistry is the study of the structure and composition of matter that makes up living things and their environment. Chemistry also deals with the study of the changes of matter and the mechanisms by which changes occur. In this class you'll learn the basic principles of chemistry, including understanding the interactions between atoms, molecules and elements; chemical bonding and chemical reactions at the atomic level; and more. You'll also gain an understanding of the various types of chemical reactions and the quantitative aspects involved. At the end of the course, you'll have a deeper understanding of acids, bases, chemical equilibrium, oxygen/reduction reactions and more.

Required Materials:

- ✓ Loose-leaf paper (NO SPIRAL!)
- ✓ Textbook: Prentice Hall Chemistry, ISBN = **0131152629**
- ✓ Calculator
- ✓ 3 Ring Binder with 5 dividers

Class Expectations:

1. **Preparedness:** Come to class prepared to learn. This includes bringing all required materials and assignments.
2. **Excellence:** As a high school student, you should all be striving for excellence on every assignment; as such, neatness, spelling, grammar, etc. will be weighted on all assignments. If standards are not met, a grade deduction will be given or a rewrite will be required. This includes homework.
3. **Binder:** Students must maintain a science binder and bring it to class each day with the following sections (in this order): warm ups, notes, assignments, labs, tests/quizzes. Students must retain all returned materials in their binder.
4. **Cell phones:** Any cell phones, or any other electronic devices **MUST** be turned off (or silenced) and put away in the bin by the door when entering the classroom and it is to remain that way until you are dismissed at the end of the period. Any cell phone in use or in sight of me during instructional time will be confiscated and sent to the office.
5. **Timeliness:** It is expected that you will arrive for class on time and be seated in your seat when the tardy bell rings. If you are not in your seat when the tardy bell rings, you will be marked tardy. All tardies are reported to attendance.
6. **Cheating:** All of us at Torah High School take cheating (including plagiarism) very seriously. There is a distinct difference between working together and copying. If you are caught copying or turn in homework or a lab write-up that is identical to another student, then the two of you will receive a zero and your parents will be notified. If you are caught cheating on a test or quiz you will receive a zero, a referral to the office, and your parents will be notified. To reiterate, cheating also includes plagiarism.

7. **Absences:** The only valid excuse for being absent on an exam or quiz day is illness. If you are unexpectedly sick on the day of an exam or quiz I expect that you will email me in the morning to notify me and when you return to school you will be expected to make up the test or quiz that day (whether you have my class that day or not). If you will be leaving early due to sports or any other reason you must schedule to take the exam or quiz with me in the morning or at lunch before you leave. If you miss an exam or quiz because of a scheduled event (appointment, sports event, etc.) you will receive a 10% grade reduction when you make it up later. This policy is strictly enforced and is designed to prevent students from gaining an unfair advantage over their classmates by getting extra days to study by intentionally missing an exam or quiz day.
8. **Grading:** Letter grades will be assigned based upon the following scale:

A 90% - 100%
B 80% - 89%
C 70% - 79%
D 60% - 69%
F 59% and below

Weighted Scores:
Tests/Quizzes: 50%
Assignments: 50%

Assignments will include classwork, homework, binders, lab work, and projects. All assignments will be completed in the traditional dark blue or black pen, pencil or typed, unless otherwise specified. All homework, labs, and activities must be turned in on time. If you have an excused absence, the assignment must be turned in the day you return for full credit. Any work turned in late will receive ZERO credit. That includes work left at home, misplaced or lost, as well as work not completed when assigned. Printer problems are not an excuse; assignments can be emailed to me at nboss@scyhigh.net. "I didn't get it" or "I didn't know we had homework" will not be accepted as excuses for not completing the assignment. Long range assignments / projects not turned in on time will received a 10% grade reduction per day beginning that day (i.e. late one day: -10%, turned in the next day: -20%, etc.)

9. **Rules:** You may have noticed that there are no rules posted in my classroom. I expect that as young adults with 8 -10 years of school experience, you have gleaned a clear understanding of what behaviors are appropriate in a classroom. My desire is to create a classroom where students are free to learn; that's why you are here! Therefore, behaviors that interfere with teaching or the learning process will not be tolerated.

Key Points:

- Respect every person in this room (and anyone not in the room) at all times.
- Support the rights of your classmates to learn.
- Be prepared, and pay attention the first time.
- Follow all safety procedures diligently.
- Participate!

Repeated offenses will lower your citizenship grade and could result in a detention and parent contact. Being disruptive, disrespectful or unkind to either Mr. Boss or another student in or out of the classroom will result in an immediate detention and/or referral to the office.

Because this is a science classroom there will be specific expectations to insure your own safety, as well as that of your classmates; these are outlined in the safety contract you received today. Safety rules and procedures must be complied with at all times. Violation of one of these rules will result in appropriate discipline; there will be no warnings!

If there is a problem you would like to address about how something is handled, please see me after class so we can discuss the situation at a more appropriate time.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to email me at nboss@scyhigh.net. I typically check my email several times during the day so this is the quickest way to get a response. If you would like to talk in person or by phone, please email me the best time to contact you (this will eliminate phone tag!)

Please read this syllabus carefully and ask your parent/guardian to read it as well. If you have any questions or need clarification on any point, please ask before you sign it. Your signature indicates that you have a clear picture of what is expected in this class.

Print Name _____

Period _____

We have read through and discussed:



- *Mr. Boss' Syllabus*

We understand that these policies are implemented with the intention of avoiding any time consuming obstacles to teaching so that the time together in class can be devoted to the joy of learning.

Please sign and return this sheet, no later than Friday acknowledging your understanding and commitment to comply with these class policies.



Student signature

Parent signature

Date

Date

The Syllabus will be online for reference. Students are required to keep the syllabus in their binder for the year.