Chemistry 111

**Foundations of Chemistry**

Instructor: Dr. Kenneth O’Connor Fall 2017

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Prerequisite: Math ACT 21 or an A, B or C in Math 127 or 130.

**Office Hours:** M, W, F from 10-11am and 2-3pm; T, Th 1:30-2:30 PM; and by appointment also**.** You are welcome to stop by outside of these times and see if I am available or make an appointment with me.

**Overview:** This 3 credit course will provide you with many of the basics of a first semester, college chemistry course. Topics will include but are not limited to metric units, dimensional analysis, nomenclature, solution chemistry, atomic structure, stoichiometry, Lewis dot structures, gas laws, hybridization, and balancing equations. CHM 111 is intended to prepare students for CHM 211. Exactly how many chapters of the text will be covered is dependent on how much time we spend on each chapter.

**Required Text:** “Foundations of College Chemistry Abridged for CHM 111” by Hein. ISBN: 978-1-11991-870-7. This is available in the bookstore only. You can also rent/buy the textbook since this may be less money than the abridged book in the book store.

**Blackboard:** I use Blackboard mostly for the grade book. I typically email students the PowerPoint presentations directly as well as any supplemental content such as practice tests and worksheets.

**Your Responsibility**: To study this subject as intensely as possible so that you can do well on the tests. You should spend a sufficient amount of time doing homework problems and reviewing your notes so that you are convinced that you understand the material. The biggest mistake is that students think they know the material when they really have not studied sufficiently for the test. My tests are very comprehensive; this means that if I taught a subject or concept in class, then it will appear on a test.

**Attendance**: I strongly encourage you to come to class so that you can understand more fully the material. It is virtually impossible to do well in this class without coming to class regularly. If you are absent, obtain the notes from another student. At a minimum, review the PowerPoint lectures and read the text book on days on which you are absent.

**Withdrawals**: The last day to withdraw from this class is 10/27/17. For a complete list of dates, the academic calendar is available at: http://www.marshall.edu/calendar/academic/fall2017.asp

**Tutoring Center**: In addition to help from me, tutors are available to help you with the material in this class. The tutoring center is in Smith Hall. Their website is: <http://www.marshall.edu/uc/ts.shtm>. It is always better to obtain a tutor when you are first having problems rather than wait two days before the test.

**Exams**: Exams will either cover individual chapters or two chapters. IF YOU MISS A TEST DUE TO AN ILLNESS OR A FAMILY SITUATION/EMERGENCY, PLEASE EMAIL OR TEXT ME. There is also a final exam. **The final exam will be given to all CHM 111 students on Saturday, December 9th at 10am.** All students need to take the final exam at this time.

**My Missed Exam Policy:** My goal is to have every student take each exam. If this is not possible, then the final exam will be used in place of the missed exam. I do understand that an illness can result in missing a test. For this reason, I strongly encourage you to take the missed exam as soon as possible. I also encourage you to obtain an excuse from the Office of Academic Affairs.

**Homework:** My goal is to enable the assigned homework to aid you in preparing for the tests. The homework is just another option to use when preparing for a test. Remember, you have other classes so budget your time appropriately when studying chemistry. You do not obtain a grade for homework.

**Calculation of your grade:**

Your exams grades will be averaged to determine your grade in this class.

My *intention* is to give you a quiz every day that we do not have an exam in class; there may be days when we don’t have a quiz. **Your quiz averages will count as one test grade. All of your test grades will be averaged, including the final exam.**

Your grade is based on the following scale:

90-100% = A 80-89.99% = B 70-79.99% = C 69.9-60% = D

Less than 60%= F

If you are found cheating on a test, you will be given a grade of zero for that test.

**Communication**: I check my emails frequently everyday so this is the best way to contact me. Texting is also possible. In your text please state your name and the class that you are in (This is Ken O’Connor and I am in your 9am 111 class.)

**Cell Phones:** Please turn off your cell phone during class. Texting is not permitted during class. There are no exceptions. My cell phone will be turned off during class. When you are in class, please give your full attention to this class and resist using your cell phone. Thank you for complying.

**Conflicts of Interest**: Often there are several students who have jobs that take control of their lives. Please try to remember that your responsibility as a student is to attend class and take exams when they are given. Also, some of you will have several tests in the same week. I urge you to study chemistry on an almost daily basis and not wait until you have a test to begin studying; by doing so you will be prepared for all of your tests.

**Students with Disabilities:** I am willing to work with any student so that you can succeed in this course. Please also familiarize yourself with the information in this website: <http://www.marshall.edu/disabled>.

**Your Priority**: If you are concerned about your GPA, you will make this class a priority. If you are having a problem with the material, please come and see me. I want you to do well. However, you need to put the effort into the course. Many of you will need to put in 10 hours or more hours per week for CHM 111.

**My Final Comment**: My goal is to have you pass this class. I do care about your performance in this class and I do want you to come to me if you need help. This class does require your patience and dedication. Let’s work together at understanding chemistry so we can both feel good about this class! Remember, we are on the same side! I want you to win and be successful! The most difficult part of this class is taking the initiative to sit down and study. Once you can do that on a repetitive basis, you will succeed in this class!

**Studying:** As mentioned above, studying is often something students do when they are cramming. The best thing to do is to take a calendar and mark on it study times that allow for you to study this course. Do the same for your other classes as well.