Chemistry 111

**Foundations of Chemistry**

Instructor: Dr. Kenneth O’Connor Fall 2013

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

**Office Hours:** M/W from 10-11AM and 2-3 PM; T/Th 2-3 PM and F from 10-11 AM and by appointment**.** 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.

**Clicker:** You can purchase a clicker from the bookstore or you can purchase one from the on-line store through Turning Technologies, our university-adopted clicker company.

**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 most likely 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 11/1/13. For a complete list of dates, the academic calendar is available at: <http://muwww-new.marshall.edu/calendar/academic/fall2013.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 available in Laidley 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 ME. There is also a final exam. **The final exam will be given to all CHM 111 students on Saturday, December 7th at 10am.** All students need to take the final exam at this time.

**My Missed Exam Policy:** If you are absent on the day of the exam, you need to obtain an excuse from academic affairs. If you have an excuse from academic affairs, I will allow you to make up the exam. The exam must be taken within 3 days of the missed exam date. If taking the makeup exam does not happen within this period of time, the final exam will be used as your makeup exam grade.

If you do not have an excuse from academic affairs, then the final exam will be used as a makeup exam. If you are not in class on the day we have another exam, you will receive a zero on that exam.

**On-line Homework:** The use of on-line homework is a new addition to CHM 111. It will be gradually integrated into the course. My goal is to enable the on-line homework to aid you in preparing for the tests.

**Calculation of your grade:**

Your exams grades will contribute to 90% of your grade. The other 10% will be obtained from on-line homework. If you complete all the on-line homework, you will obtain the full 10%. If you do half of the on-line homework, you will receive one-half of the credit of the on-line homework.

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.

**Clicker Question Bonus Points:** You will have the opportunity to increase your final grade for the course by 1 to 2 extra points by answering clicker questions during class. The points you obtain are based on the scale of the percentage of the total clicker points available for the semester:

0 – 20% clicker questions correct: No extra bonus points

21-50% clicker questions correct: 1 extra bonus point

>51% clicker questions correct: 2 extra bonus points

**Clicker Questions in Class**:

The biggest challenge is to find a balance between using clicker questions in class and lecturing. The goal of the clicker questions is to enable you to continually be engaged during lecture and realize the content areas that you need additional help in. It also allows me, as the instructor, to determine the concepts that I need to review during lecture. Therefore, it is very important that you bring your clicker to class every day. You will also obtain clicker question bonus points, based on the percentage you answer correctly, by attending class.

**EXTRA CREDIT:** Other than the clicker question bonus points outlined above, there are no other options in this class to obtain any extra credit points. Your grade will be based on your test averages primarily, with any clicker question bonus points added to you final grade.

**Communication**: I check my emails frequently everyday so this is the best way to contact me. You can leave a message for me on my campus phone and I will call you back.

**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 15 hours a 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!