PS 110 General Physical Science

Summer 2014 -3 credits -- co-requisite: PS 110L

Instructor: Dr. Richard Bady bady@marshall.edu

Office hours: Before lab or after lecture

Text: Conceptual Physical Science by Hewitt, Suchocki and Hewitt

PS 110L Lab Manual and Extra Materials by Bady

**Course Description:**

This course is an introduction, for non-science majors, to the main concepts and applications of chemistry and earth science. Included are nuclear reactions, atomic and molecular structure, chemical reactions, applied chemistry, basic geology and atmospheric science, and pollution of air and water. We will read Chapters 12-19 (Chemistry) and 20-25 (Earth Sciences).

**Evaluation & Grading:** 90%: A 80%: B 70%: C 60%: D

Quizzes: 5--One each week. 70%

Final Exam: comprehensive, 30%

**Attendance & other Policies:**

Do to the intense nature of an entire class in less than 5 weeks, keeping up is important!

Usually the only students who fail are those who miss class or don’t do the HW, or don’t ask questions.

Academic dishonesty of any kind will result in failure for the course.

**Daily Procedures:**

Every day you will be given a reading assignment as well as end-of-chapter questions.

The class will always start w/ a question/answer session. Come prepared to ask questions!!!

No rigid schedule is made ahed of time since the instructor need sto be flexible in such a fast paced course.

The day before a quiz, a lighter than usual HW assignment will be given.

**Tips for success:**

Keep up and do all the work. If you have a poor science background, you may find the course difficult, but not impossible. It is **crucial** that you keep up and don't miss class.

Come prepared to ask questions. The first few minutes of each class will be spent answering questions from the text, the homework or whatever. Write questions in your notebook so you are ready to ask what you need to know. There is no such thing as a "dumb question".

Read the text slowly, and re-read. Reading a science text is not like reading most other books. Don't just read, but study the text.

Study the diagrams. The book contains many diagrams and illustrations. Study them carefully until you understand their purpose. If you don't, ask in class.

Notice the world. The course is about the things around you, so pay attention to the world and ask questions in class. Try especially to notice weather, roadcuts and rock formations, chemicals and pollution and other things that might be relevant.

Study with and talk to others in the class. Many concepts in the course are subtle and abstract. You cannot learn them all at once--talking about the ideas is necessary--the more you talk with others, the more sense it will all make. Use the newsgroup to talk to others and the instructor.

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