

Class Outline: Spring Semester, 2014

Ms. Sanner

ms.sannervargas@gmail.com

Expectations for Students

Rule	Rationale	Example
1. Students will be respectful of their fellow students.	All students have the right to feel safe, to be listened to, and to have equal opportunities for participation and learning.	Hate speech, slurs, aggression, interrupting, and insulting, are unacceptable behaviors.
2. Students will be respectful of the teacher.	The teachers are people with feelings and limitations. Treat them like you want to be treated. Understand that we sometimes make mistakes.	Raise hand to speak/ask question during lecture. Speak respectfully, and make eye contact. Turn assignments in promptly and participate in class activities and discussions.
3. Students will allow themselves the opportunity to succeed.	Students must be present and prepared to learn. If they are not, they will not receive the same education and understanding of the material as the rest of the class and will consequently be behind.	No tardiness or unexcused absence. Homework must be completed and appropriate materials and assignments must be brought to class.
4. Students will demonstrate lab safety when participating in a lab.	For the safety of the students, handle chemicals and heating elements with care to avoid injuring yourself or others. Potential injuries include burns, chemical burns, puncture wounds from broken glass, blindness, conflagration, and poisoning	Hair is tied back, students wear closed-toed shoes and avoid loose sleeves and wrist jewelry on lab days. Goggles and gloves are worn at all times and safe handling of equipment and chemicals is required. No material is tasted, ingested or directly smelled.
5. Students will advocate for themselves.	Speaking up when you don't understand allows the teachers to provide you with extra help. Chances are someone else is probably struggling with the same concept. Participating fully in class discussions allow you to gain a deeper understanding of the material.	Seek help from your teachers, from good sources, from tutors. Ask questions when you don't understand, participate in classroom discussions and make your voice heard . If you can't hear what's being said, say so!

Expectations for Teachers

1. Be kind, caring, and create a safe environment.
2. Provide feedback quickly and thoroughly.
3. Have high expectations and high regard for students' abilities and potential.
4. Respect and consider differences of opinion, when voiced politely and at an appropriate time.
5. Be available outside of class, after school, and at lunch according to a reasonable schedule. Also available via email.

Goals of this Class

1. Gain a beginning understanding of general chemistry.
2. Learn effective study and learning habits.
3. Use academic and scientific language in both written and oral situations with proficiency
4. Develop tools for conducting independent research; be able to evaluate sources for credibility.
5. Learn to advocate for yourself and your education, a skill you will need in college and beyond.

Policies

Grading Policy: Any work that falls below a “C” letter grade must be redone, and resubmitted. Failing is not an option! Resubmissions will be given a deadline, and marked down if late.

Homework Policy: Homework is not busy work, we will attempt to assign no more than 30 minutes of work each night with the EXPECTATION that you will study for the entire 30 minutes. If you finish early, keep going. If it consistently takes longer than 30 minutes for you to complete your homework, check in with one of your teacher to discuss. Going forward, homework will be collected at our discretion, quizzes will be given on the homework, and you will be held responsible for completing your work in its entirety. Late homework will be marked down for each class period that it is late.

Study Habits: You should have a quiet, distraction free environment in which to study. If you are unable to find such a place, see your teachers. Going forward, you will be required to complete a study log, detailing specifically what homework/studying you did each day and when.

Exams and Tests: In preparing for an exam, you will construct a “plan of attack” detailing how you will allocate your time studying for an exam. Plan on spending a significant amount of time (2-4 hours) reviewing class notes, homework, finding additional problems on topics with which you struggle. You should note this study time on your study log.

Class Participation: Participation means many things; not just speaking. You are expected to arrive on time, be quiet when teachers are giving instructions, bring your notebook, a pen or pencil, a red pen, a glue stick, and a pad of post-its EVERY DAY. **Phones must be turned off and inside purses/backpacks/etc. All personal items must be left on the floor or chair back.** The only thing on your desk should be your notebook and writing materials.