

Honors Chemistry 2020-2021

Dr. Vanderveen
www.drvanderveen.com
kvanderveen@psharvard.org
Room 265

Chemistry is the study of the behaviors of substances and how they change.

Major topics include: atomic structure, the periodic table, problem solving methods, bonding, chemical reactions, gases, heat changes in chemical processes, equilibrium, kinetics, nuclear chemistry, acids and bases, and electrochemistry

Many course resources, including unit assignment sheets, are available in Google Classroom or at www.drvanderveen.com

What will I learn?

1 What happens in class?

Every minute of class time is valuable--be in class or the virtual meeting and be on time! The class is fast paced, involving a variety of learning strategies. You will relate your observations to models of matter at the particle level. You will learn to communicate your findings to other scientists as you develop your problem-solving skills. The mathematics of chemistry will be a major focus.

Classwork and independent work will be assigned daily. Lab experiments, either virtual or in-person, will be part of every unit; On average, expect 45 minutes of classwork and independent work each day.

Weekly assignment sheets will be posted online at www.drvanderveen.com and in Google Classroom, which will be "command central" for the course. General course materials are also available at this padlet.

Dr V will hold virtual office hours on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays between 1-1:30 pm.

Zoom meeting links will be posted in Google Classroom and by using Google Calendar invitations.

WORK SMART

2 How should I behave in class?

Face to face classes with social distancing: Keep your masks on except during scheduled mask breaks. Stay 6 feet apart at all times. No food or drinks are EVER allowed in room 265. Do not share materials.



Virtual class periods: Be on time for Zoom lessons. Turn your camera on when possible and turn your microphone off when asked. Avoid eating or drinking on camera! Only share your screen when prompted. Virtual backgrounds should be school appropriate and non-distracting (preferably solid). Make sure your real name is your screen name.

All classes (in person, remote or hybrid): Stay focused on the instructional activities and avoid distractions (apps, email and other websites) during class time. Ask questions verbally or in the chat. Use your classmate's names and be kind and supportive. Keep your comments and questions school appropriate.



3 What are the COVID-19 hygiene protocols?



Use hand sanitizer when entering or leaving room 265.

Spray down your workspace and seat at the end of each class period.



Sign out to use the restroom and sign back in.



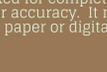
Keep your mask on, fully covering your mouth and nose, except during designated mask breaks.

4 How can I be successful in class?



Learning isn't just about grades, but the more you do, the more you will learn and the better you will get at chemistry. Grades in this course will be determined based on the percentage of points earned relative to total points assigned.

We will complete a variety of assignments and activities this year. It is in your best interest to complete every assignment and to turn in high quality work.



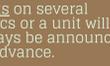
Classwork may be checked for completion and/or accuracy. It may be on paper or digital.



Independent work may be checked for completion and/or accuracy. Check Google Classroom.



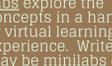
Short quizzes on a single topic will be frequent. They may be unannounced or planned.



Tests on several topics or a unit will always be announced in advance.



Projects may explore a topic in more depth or be used in place of a test or quiz.



Labs explore the concepts in a hands-on or virtual learning experience. Writeups may be minilabs or formal reports.

Keep up to date with assignments and studying. Check Google Classroom, the weekly assignment sheets, and Powerschool regularly.

Turn your work in on time!

Use a planner to keep track of your work. Expect 45 minutes of classwork and independent work each day.

Use the available resources--textbook, website, Dr. V, and your classmates--to help understand the concepts.

Chemistry is cumulative, and skills learned in one unit are often used again in later units. Therefore quiz and test questions may cover previously studied topics! Review your notes frequently.

5 What should I bring to class?

pen or pencil
scientific (nonprogrammable) calculator
binder or notebook
bound composition book for lab data
hard copy assignments ready to be turned in (stapled!)
MacBook charged & ready to use



Course textbook Introductory Chemistry: A Foundation (7e) by Zumdahl and DeCoste

(Note: You can leave your textbook at home)

Supplemental virtual text: Bromfield Honors Chemistry from CK-12

6 What are the expectations for class?



Independent work is due at the beginning of class OR by the due date in Google Classroom. Late HW will not be accepted if you are in school on the day it is due. Assignments not turned in promptly will result in a grade of zero.



Absent? Make up any missed assignments right away--this is YOUR responsibility, whether the class was in-person or virtual! If you miss class, check Google Classroom or the weekly assignment sheet for the day's work



Lab reports and projects will have a 50% penalty if received more than 1 day late and will not be accepted more than one day late.



Pop quizzes may be given at any time. Tests, quizzes and projects will be announced on the weekly assignment sheets.



If extra time is requested on a test, the test must be completed on the original test date.

Nitty Gritty Details

If you are absent for a test or quiz, you are expected to make up the assessment the day you return. For absences of more than one day, you may have up to three days to complete the assessment. However, absence is not an excuse for missing a deadline--when in doubt, turn it in early. Refer to the student handbook for the official policy on unauthorized absences. If there are exceptional circumstances, please conference with Dr. V.

Missed in-person labs must be made up within one week of the original lab date. Virtual lab assignments need to be completed in accordance to the school policy on makeup work.

Assume, unless you are told otherwise, that work assigned outside of class, including homework and laboratory reports, is to be done independently. Cheating on tests will not be tolerated. Instances of academic dishonesty will be handled as outlined in the student handbook. This includes assignment grades of zero for plagiarized work and parent notification.



7 What are the class rules?

Tip #1

Be on time! Ask permission and sign out before leaving the room. Log in on time for virtual class sessions. Class time is valuable, so don't waste it.

Tip #2

Be respectful of fellow classmates. Abusive language, in any form, will not be tolerated. You will need to work cooperatively with all classmates, participate in all class activities. For virtual class sessions, the same expectations apply in both whole group meetings and break out rooms.

Tip #3

Turn your cell phones and other devices off during class unless otherwise directed. Make sure your MacBooks are charged and ready to use every day.

Tip #4

Graphing (programmable) calculators may not be used on tests, although they may be used at other times.

Tip #5

When doing in-person lab activities, follow the lab safety rules at all times. Refer to the lab safety handbook for details.

Final Advice



Many students feel overwhelmed at first, because the material is abstract and unfamiliar. You will be challenged. Although some of the topics are difficult, the material can be mastered if you use active study strategies and work consistently. Making mistakes is part of the learning process, and you will get better with practice. Use all the available resources to help you improve. Ask Dr. V for help if you don't understand something--attend office hours, speak up during class, consult a classmate, or send an email to kvanderveen@psharvard.org.

Remember: CHEM IS TRY!