Chemistry A Fall 2017

Mr. Gould

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Lowell High School

During this semester in Chemistry we will be learning about the way matter works. Chemistry is one of the most fundamental courses in college. We will use mathematics and a hands-on approach to explore chemistry. **Please read this syllabus and keep it for reference throughout the year.**

Textbook:

World of Chemistry by Zumdahl, Zumdahl, and DeCoste (2001) **Online access:** link provided during first week of school

Student Expectations:

- 1. Bring your notebook and materials EVERY day.
- 2. Be respectful to your peers and teacher.
- 3. Take responsibility for your education by completing assignments and participating in class.

Required Materials:

- 1. 3 ring binder at least 1"
 - a. This can be part of another binder
- 2. 5 Dividers labeled: Reference, Current Assignments, Old Assignments, Notes, Paper
- 3. Scientific calculator*
- 4. Pens and Pencils
- 5. Ruler

* You ARE NOT allowed to use a cell phone or tablet as a calculator at any time.

Procedures:

- 1. Class starts when the bell rings (even if there's no bell sound!) you are expected to be in your seat.
- 2. You will be excused **by the teacher**, not the bell. You will *not* be excused until the classroom has been cleaned up and materials returned.

Discipline:

If a student is a distraction or exhibiting inappropriate behavior they will report for a detention after school with the teacher. A second offense will result in parent/guardian contact. A third offense will result in an administrative referral and parent conference.

All work is expected to be completed <u>individually</u> unless assigned as group work. **Cheating** is defined as "to create an unfair advantage, usually in one's own interest, and often at the expense of others." Cheating on an assignment earns a <u>zero</u> on the assignment for *all students involved*.

Grade Guidelines:

Most of the points during the semester will be from unit tests and quizzes. The next most significant contributions to the grade will be labs and homework. Any questions about your grade can be answered before school or after school, or by email. Under *no circumstances* are you to disrupt class with questions about your grades. Your grade is based on the total number of points earned through the semester. Your letter grade is based on what percent of the total points you have: 90-100% A, 80-89.9% B, 70-79.9% C, 60-69.9% D, below 60% F. Be sure to check your grades online to understand what you must due to **earn** your desired grade.

Homework is assigned periodically, and the assignments are posted on the class homework blog: http://mistergouldchemistry.blogspot.com/

The purpose of homework is to reinforce concepts learned and to introduce new topics. Any of the assigned problems may show up on homework 'harvests,' unit tests and/or quizzes.

Many handouts and materials will be available online if you lose your copy. If an electronic version is not available and you did not have an <u>excused</u> absence you must make a copy yourself.

Absences:

Frequent absences will *drastically* affect your grade. Make-up work is YOUR responsibility. You must get notes, agendas and missing work when you return to class. Check the online calendar, with your peers or with me for these things AS SOON AS you return. Work and tests missed due to an <u>unexcused</u> absence **may not** be made up for points. If you have an <u>excused</u> absence you have the same amount of time that you were absent to turn in your work. For example, if you are absent for two days, you have two days from when you return to class to turn in the work. **Field trips are NOT considered excused absences and work must be obtained before the trip.**

All tests and quizzes must be made up within one week of the date given **after school** and not during the school day. If you are absent the class *before* a test, you are still required to take the test with the rest of your classmates.

Extra Credit:

From time-to-time, there will be some extra credit opportunities, but are not offered just to raise a poor grade.

I have read and understand all the expectations of this class. I will do my best to follow these guidelines to ensure student success.

Student name (printed)	Parent name (printed)
Student Signature	Parent Signature