**Course Goals:**

* **Develop**learning skills that transfer to other classes and life outside of the classroom.
* **Learn** the fundamentals behind matter, reactions and energy.
* **Understand** how these fundamentals relate to you.

**Teacher’s Goals:**

* **Guide** students through the study of chemistry.
* **Help** students *comprehend* rather than *memorize* chemistry information.
* **Scaffold** the development of quality learning, analyzing, and writing skills.
* **Prepare** you for the rigor of college.

**Expectations:**

* Students will come prepared for class, including lab days.
* Our speech and behavior will be respectful, considerate of others and mindful of chemical safety.
* Students will be challenged by the material of this class. We commit to supporting your growth and expect you to be willing to persevere in your work, be willing to take chances and participate in class activities and discussions.

**Materials for success:**

You will be expected to bring class notes, handouts and a calculator to class every day. Chem B has a strong math focus and a scientific calculator is recommended (calculators with graphing capabilities are not required). It is suggested that you have a separate 3-ring binder for this class, as you will be asked to keep a number of handouts and notes well organized.

**Unit syllabi:**

A syllabus will be handed out at the beginning of each unit of instruction, which details the daily topics, the corresponding reading and homework, as well as the test dates and lab report due dates. If you have a question about an assignment’s due date, you will be directed back to your unit syllabus. Any changes to the syllabus will be discussed in class.

**Grading Policy:**

* The grading policy of the chemistry department figures grades as follows:

50%- tests (This includes the final exam, which is worth 15% of total grade)

10%- quizzes

10%- homework/classwork

30%- labs

* Homework and Textbook
	+ Pearson *Chemistry* (2013) is the online textbook for this course. You received an access code for the book at the beginning of Chem A. The textbook and additional resources will be a great help to you during this trimester. If you are unable to access your text, contact Pearson: 1-800-234-5832 or via [www.successnetplus.com/support](http://www.successnetplus.com/support). If you do not have regular access to the internet, arrangements can be made for you to borrow a textbook from the instructor.
	+ Homework will be regularly assigned and discussed in class. At the end of a unit, we will ask you to staple a number of these assignments together to be turned on the day of the test, with work shown and corrected (solutions available on course website).
* Labs/projects
	+ During each unit of instruction, students will complete at least one lab. Proper conduct is expected of each student in lab, including: coming prepared, wearing goggles at all times, following instructions, actively participating in the lab procedures, etc. Disorderly conduct is grounds for ejection from lab and a zero on the accompanying lab report.
* Tests
	+ Tests will be given at the conclusion of a chapter or unit of instruction. These tests will cover material from previous tests (roughly 10%), as well as concepts discussed in class, homework and in lab.
	+ Students will not be allowed to remove their old tests from the classroom, as these tests require take many hours to write. However, students are invited to come in before or after school to review their tests.
* Cheating and Plagiarism are unacceptable behaviors. The teachers reserve the right to not accept work and/or deduct points from a student’s grade if the work presented is not their own.
* Late work: Students will be allowed two lab passes during the trimester. These passes allow them to turn in a lab late (they have until the end of the trimester to complete them). Other unexcused late work will be graded with a maximum grade of 85%.

**Absences:**

Students are expected to make up any missing work within 3 days of their return to school. Students should avoid missing lab days if possible, as they will need to arrange a time before or after school to make up the lab. Students absent the day of a test should be prepared to take it the day of their return to school. Extended absences and/or special circumstances do happen and arrangements to make up missed work should be made as soon as possible.

**Office hours:**

Students are encouraged to seek help from their instructors and peers throughout this course. Ms. Pressprich will plan to hold the following office hours:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Before-school hours** | **After-school hours** |
| Monday, Thursday and Friday | 7:15-7:45 am | Until 4:00 pm |
| Tuesday and Wednesday | 7:00-7:45 am | Until 3:00 pm |

An email will be sent to the students and parents of Chem B if these hours need to be changed for a given week.

Copies of the daily handouts, lab rubrics and other important documents can be accessed on this course’s website (We will NOT be using MOODLE): <http://www.chemb.weebly.com>

Should students misplace their work or be interested in accessing additional resources to help make sense of the content, they are encouraged to use this website as a first-stop.

*We’re looking forward to learning about chemistry with you this trimester!*

*Mr. Erickson and Ms. Pressprich*

*Contact information:*

ericksog@salinehornets.org

lpressprich.saline@gmail.com

Dear Parent or Guardian,

 We are excited to have your student in Chem B this trimester! As the trimester gets underway, know that we are committed to helping your student develop their chemistry knowledge and skills. If you would like to get in touch with us, the best form of communication is email. Our email addresses are:

Greg Erickson (instructor): ericksog@salinehornets.org

Laura Pressprich (student teacher): lpressprich.saline@gmail.com

If your student is in need of extra support, our office hours will typically be:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Before-school hours** | **After-school hours** |
| Monday, Thursday and Friday | 7:15-7:45 am | Until 4:00 pm |
| Tuesday and Wednesday | 7:00-7:45 am | Until 3:00 pm |

More resources can be accessed through our class website, as well as the handouts, labs and rubrics that have been distributed to the students in class: <http://www.chemb.weebly.com>

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Chemistry, Trimester B Course Syllabus Spring 2014

Parent page Mr. Erickson and Ms. Pressprich

Please sign this page and have your student return it to class tomorrow, Wednesday, 3/19/2014, so that we know that you’ve also seen this information. Feel free to detach the lower half of this sheet if you would appreciate having a copy of our contact information and the available resources.

Student name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

P.S. Please have your student take time to access their online textbook to ensure that they are able to begin the course reading for the first unit in a timely manner.

Textbook accessed (Parent initial): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_