

***The Advanced Placement Chemistry  
International Baccalaureate Chemistry  
General Information***

**Welcome to AP/IB Chemistry!** Hello students and parents. The AP/IB Chemistry class is a first year college level chemistry class taught in the high school. It is a fast-paced and very challenging class; with the goal of passing the AP/IB exams in May for college credit. This class is double blocked which means that we meet for 2 periods (2nd and 3rd). This gives us ample opportunity to complete the curriculum as well as do a complete college-level laboratory exercise each week. Success in AP/IB Chemistry will be based on your acceptance of the class expectations that will place unusually heavy demands on your time and energy. Remember (as you begin to feel overwhelmed) that this is really two (2) college-level classes and you should expect to do at least twice as much work as you would in one AP level class!

**Main Topics:** Atomic Theory and Structure; Chemical Equations and Reactions; Predicting Equations; Gas Laws; Thermodynamics; Periodic Table; Chemical Bonding; Liquids and Solids; Chemical Kinetics; Chemical Equilibrium; Acids and Bases; Nuclear Chemistry; Radioactivity; Electrochemistry; Organic Chemistry; Environmental Chemistry

**Textbook:** The textbook for the course is *Chemistry* by Steven S. Zumdahl, 5<sup>th</sup> edition (Houghton Mifflin Company). The laboratory “manual” is a collection of AP or IB recommended laboratory experiments. You will be given these exercises weekly.

**Class Supplies:** **Notebook:** Students are required to have a 3-ringed notebook. Notes, homework problems, handouts, and graded papers are to be kept in this 3-ring binder. It must be brought to class each meeting.

**Lab book:** Students are required to have a hardbound laboratory research notebook. Demonstrations and laboratory reports are to be kept in the lab book, which must also be brought to class each meeting.

When requesting college credit for an AP course, the student may be required to provide evidence of laboratory work completed in the AP class to the college professors. Therefore, it is very important that the student keep carefully prepared permanent records of everything he/she does in the laboratory for future reference. **NEATNESS counts!** Lab books will be graded after every lab.

**Calculators:** A SCIENTIFIC CALCULATOR IS MANDATORY! Graphing calculators in which information may be stored are acceptable for class use, but they are NOT allowed during exams.

**Attendance:** Attendance in this class is critical since much of what occurs in class is hands-on and cannot be duplicated at a later time. It is **your responsibility** to find out what you missed and make up any missed work promptly. I am usually available at lunch or after school to discuss any assignments/tests.

Our lab day will be Wednesday, periods 2 and 3. You will usually receive pre-lab materials on Tuesday and should be ready to go directly into the lab as soon as class begins on Wednesday. This means that all the lab preparation will be completed before you come to class on Wednesday!

**Assignment Calendars:** Bi-weekly assignment calendars will be distributed denoting the material to be covered in class as well as all homework assignments, test dates, and lab

experiments. These are also available online. It is your responsibility to remain current.

**Website** I will be maintaining a website for this class. This site will contain general information, assignment calendars, and links to other relevant sites. The address is: <http://home.gci.net/~carmenwhs/index.htm> Grades will be available through Zangle.

**Academic Honesty** I will do everything I can to see that the grade you receive represents the work actually done by you. During tests and quizzes, it is ***your responsibility to BE innocent and to LOOK innocent.*** If you are caught cheating on anything, then everything you do for the entire year will be minutely scrutinized; and you will NOT be permitted access to sensitive areas in the lab. Trust is paramount!

**Homework:** The key to success in this class is to apply what you learned and to practice independently. You are encouraged to work with each other, help each other; but to learn the skills and information, you must work and think independently. To help you in this end all homework will be done online. No late work will be accepted—exceptions only for excused absences or emergencies.

**Quizzes/ Exams:** Quizzes will be given daily and will cover any material previously discussed. Exams will follow the completion of 3 chapters. Exams will include multiple choice questions and at least one essay/free response question similar to those found on the free response segments of national exams. Tests will include material covered in the class notes, laboratory experiments, reading material from the textbook, and demonstrations. Quizzes and exams missed due to absences must be made up the first day back to school. Quizzes not made up on time will receive a grade of zero. It is ***your responsibility*** to request the missed exams/quizzes.

**Demonstrations and laboratory Responsibilities:** Each student will present 2 demonstrations to the class each semester. Dates for the presentation of the demonstration will be randomly assigned at the beginning of the semester. If time allows at the end of the semester, additional demonstrations will be accepted for extra credit. Failure to meet these requirement will result in a score of zero.

All AP/IB students will be responsible for their “Lab chores.” These are duties above and beyond the routine lab activities associated with lab exercises, that are required to keep the lab functioning smoothly. They include solution preparation, maintaining glassware and equipment, and overall lab cleanliness for safety.

**Grading Policy:** Grades will be based on accumulated points. The grading scale for lecture will be:

A = 90 – 100% of total points

B = 80 – 89%

C = 70 – 79%

D = 60 – 69%

F = 0 – 59%

Separate grades will be assigned for the lecture and laboratory periods.

**Advanced Placement or IB Exam:** Each student enrolled in the class is expected to take the AP and the IB Examination (if applicable) in May. The cost of the AP Exam is approximately \$85. Fee waivers are available for financial reasons. The first part of the exam consists of 75 multiple choice questions to be answered in 90 minutes and is worth 50% of the final grade. No calculators can be used in Part I. The second part of the exam is allotted 95 minutes and consists of 3 quantitative problems for which

you may use a calculator and 3 essay/equation problems for which you may NOT use a calculator. The questions are comprehensive and cover a broad range of topics that allow the student to demonstrate reasoning abilities by the application of chemical principles to problem solving.

The IB Exam is similar, but with 40 multiple choice questions to be completed in 1 hour for Paper 1, and several comprehensive problems, essay topics, and laboratory-based questions to be answered in 1 hour 15 minutes for each of Papers 2 and 3. Juniors can only test at the Standard Level, while seniors can choose to test at either the Standard or Higher Level. These exams are read by IB-trained teachers internationally and are assigned a grade of 1-7. This grade is entered into the IB matrix for the diploma.

**Contact  
Information:**

My name is Carmen Olito. I always try to make time for students and parents. I am usually available in my classroom (S-6) for students during lunch and after school. Parents, you may leave a message for me with the office or through the school district email [olito\\_carmen@asdk12.org](mailto:olito_carmen@asdk12.org). Be aware, though, I cannot respond to either messages during school hours as I am teaching and working with students. I will try to catch up on all my correspondence after school.

I have read the course description, and I accept the expectations associated with Advanced Placement /International Baccalaureate Chemistry.

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(student's printed name)

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(student ID)

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(student signature)

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(date)

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(parent/guardian signature)

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(date)