**Chemistry 134 - Introduction to Chemistry - Fall 2014**

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**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course is especially for those who plan to study science in college but are not ready to undertake General Chemistry. Chemistry 134 is designed to strengthen your background in chemistry, your problem-solving ability, and your quantitative reasoning skills. We will review algebra and logic as applied to chemistry problems. We will prepare you to successfully meet the challenge of Chemistry 161 in the spring semester.

**MATERIALS REQUIRED**

- *Scientific calculator* (exponentials, powers, roots, logarithms, etc.) A graphing calculator such as the TI-85 is not required, but may be used if you already have it. PLEASE BRING TO EVERY CLASS.

**LECTURES**

There are two 80-minute lectures per week, Monday and Wednesday 10:55–12:05 pm (FS-AUD). The syllabus lists topics to be covered during each lecture. We highly recommend that you do the relevant reading in the text **BEFORE** lecture; this practice will greatly enhance your ability to absorb the concepts introduced and follow the problems being solved. You are responsible for all material discussed in lecture whether or not it is also covered in the book. You are also responsible for announcements made and handouts distributed in lecture. If you must miss class due to illness or personal emergency, please contact a fellow student for handouts, notes, and assignments.

Our experience has clearly shown that students who attend lecture regularly tend to be considerably more successful in the course. Note that the schedule attached herein covers only the first six weeks of the semester. After that time, Chemistry 134 will merge with Chemistry 133, and we will use the 133 syllabus. Chemistry 133 is a preparatory course starting on October 13; it is designed for students who attempted General Chemistry, but were unsuccessful. Those who enroll drop their current General Chemistry course and take 133 instead.

**RECITATION**

You are required to attend one 80-minute recitation per week, Thursday or Friday 10:55 am – 12:15 pm. There are two recitation sections that meet concurrently. You must attend the section for which you are registered in order to receive credit.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SECTION</th>
<th>DATE/TIME</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01 and 02</td>
<td>Th 10:55 am – 12:15 pm</td>
<td>HCK 130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03 and 04</td>
<td>F 10:55 am – 12:15 pm</td>
<td>HCK 130</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Recitation will allow you to interact with a member of the instructional staff in a small-group setting. The class will focus on problem-solving; the instructor will go over homework problems in depth and will also reinforce concepts and skills by introducing new problems. Recitation is the time for you to ask questions -- questions that will occur to you only if you have put forth your best effort on each week’s material before class. Furthermore, preparation for and participation in class will obviously affect your instructor’s evaluation of you. If your course grade lies at a borderline at the end of the semester, a positive evaluation may make the difference between one letter grade and the next. (For details, see “GRADING” below).

**CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT**

We will be using sakai (http://sakai.rutgers.edu/) as a classroom management system. You should check this site regularly. If you check it now, you will find a number of documents posted. If you are registered and a Rutgers Student, you will automatically be a “member” of the online class. You will need your NetID to login. You should read these documents, especially the syllabus, grading policies, and homework very carefully. During the course many additional
documents will be posted on the site including lecture notes, practice exams, and useful information or explanations about important topics. This is where scores will be posted. If you are having trouble accessing sakai, contact me or see me during office hours.

QUizzes

There will be ten 20 minutes quizzes during recitations. They will be administered at the end of the class so that you will have ample time to review and ask questions. Quizzes will typically stress material assigned and/or covered in lecture during the same week. However, since the concepts of chemistry build upon each other, quizzes will by necessity be somewhat cumulative. If you must miss a quiz for a reason acceptable to your recitation instructor, it may be possible for him/her to arrange a make-up. Contact your instructor immediately, because the make-up quiz must be taken before the next recitation.

If you take all 10 quizzes, the nine highest scores will count towards your final grade; the lowest will be dropped. If you miss a quiz for any reason whatsoever, the missing quiz will automatically be the one dropped; the remaining 9 quizzes that you took will all count towards your grade.

If you are absent for a second quiz, you will receive a grade of zero for that quiz. The only exception will be if both your absences are due to illness or personal emergency and are substantiated by written documentation. In that case, your instructor will simply substitute the average of your remaining quiz grades for the second missing score. It is up to you to discuss such arrangements with your recitation instructor within one week of your absence. Policy for any additional missed quizzes is the same. Provide any required documentation as soon as possible, but absolutely no later than the last day of classes, Dec. 10 – no exceptions.

Examinations

There will be two hourly examinations. The first will be held during lecture and the second during the University common hour exam period assigned to Chemistry 133. The final will be held during the Chemistry group exam time, as shown in the Course Catalog.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exam</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Place</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exam 1</td>
<td>Wed Oct. 8</td>
<td>10:55 am – 12:15 pm</td>
<td>In Class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm</td>
<td>Mon. Nov. 10</td>
<td>9:40 am – 11:00 pm</td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>Frid. Dec. 17</td>
<td>12:00 am – 3:00 pm</td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Bring to each exam a scientific calculator, photo ID, and at least two #2 pencils with erasers. Sharing calculators is not permitted.

In accordance with University policy, the following situations, and only the following, constitute official conflicts with an exam.

1. You are registered for another course that meets at the time of the exam.
2. You have another common hour exam scheduled at the same time.
3. You must attend athletic practice required by a coach.
4. You are observing a religious holiday.

If you have an official conflict with an hourly exam, please submit
1. Conflict Request Form (attached at the end of this handout and also available on the course website)
2. Required documentation.

Deadlines for submission of conflict requests: Midterm: Mon. Nov. 5

We will not honor requests submitted after the above deadlines or without documentation.

If you have a conflict with an hourly, you will be scheduled for testing at another time during the day of the exam, possibly late in the evening. A list of approved students will be posted on the course website.

If you miss an examination for unforeseeable medical reasons, contact Dr. Rabeony as soon as possible. No medical excuse will be considered unless written supporting documents are provided. There are normally no make-ups for
missed hourly exams. Your final exam will be weighted more heavily to substitute for the missing grade, assuming that your documentation is acceptable. An unexcused absence will count as zero. Conflict policy for the final exam will follow University policy. **Vacation plans will not be considered a conflict** under any circumstances, so please arrange your travel accordingly. Submit conflict requests by **Mon. Dec. 8**. If you miss the final due to an official conflict or verifiable illness, you must make up the exam. A make-up will be held during the January winter break.

**GRADING**

There are a total of 600 points which can be accumulated in this course, distributed as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exam I</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>600</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
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**POSTING OF SCORES:** All scores will be posted on our sakai page (see above).

**LETTER GRADES:** Letter grades, with a few important exceptions described immediately below, are assigned based on the Total Score as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Score (TS)%</th>
<th>Letter Grade*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TS ≥ 90</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90 &gt; TS ≥ 80</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80 &gt; TS ≥ 60</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60 &gt; TS ≥ 50</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50 &gt; TS</td>
<td>F(*)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(*The IMPORTANT EXCEPTIONS to the letter grade assignment include conditions that result in an automatic failure (grade of “F”) regardless of the Total Score. These conditions include:

- If you miss more than one Midterm Exam for any reason (excused or unexcused).
- If you get lower than a 35% on the Final Exam.
- If you miss the Final Exam and do not have an approved **excused absence**.
- If you are caught cheating on any of the Quizzes, Midterm Exams or the Final Exam, or are in any other violation of the policy on **Academic Integrity**.

What the above table implies is that, barring the exceptions described above, if you get a total score of 90 or above, you will receive an “A”; if you get a total score of 80 or above, you will get a B (or higher, e.g., a B+); if you get a total score of 60 or above, you will get a C (or higher, e.g., a C+), etc. What is guaranteed is that, given a particular total score, the grade you receive will NOT BE LOWER than that listed in the table.

THE GRADES WILL BE SOLELY BASED ON YOUR TOTAL POINT SCORE IN THE COURSE AND NOT NECESSARILY ON YOUR KNOWLEDGE AND THE AMOUNT OF TIME YOU PUT IN.

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

All University polices on academic integrity will be strictly enforced. Any involvement with cheating, the fabrication or invention of information used in an academic exercise, or facilitating academic dishonesty of others will result in serious consequences ranging from reprimand to expulsion. Bringing information into an exam, whether stored electronically or on paper, shall be considered cheating. Having a cell phone or pager at hand during a test shall be considered *prima facia* evidence of cheating. All electronic devices, other than a calculator must be turned off and out of sight during testing. Use of calculators with the ability to communicate with other calculators, calculators that are programmable or that have any permanent alphanumeric memories (“graphing” calculators) is expressly forbidden. Use of such calculators will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct for appropriate action (http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/).
CHAIN OF COMMAND

In general, routine questions regarding course material, homework problems, quizzes, exam scores, absences, etc. should be directed first to your recitation instructor. Only for further information, or if the above procedure fails to resolve a particular problem, should you contact Dr. Rabeony, the course coordinator. The coordinator will not, for the most part, consider complaints in grading that are less than a few points. Questions regarding lecture material can be directed either to your recitation instructor (this is a very good use of recitation time) or directly to the lecturer, as time permits. Specific comments or requests are always valued.

STUDY HINTS

- Do the assigned reading before each lecture. This practice will greatly enhance your ability to follow and retain material covered in lecture and will allow you to focus on the problem-solving techniques explained in class.
- Reread the text after lecture, concentrating on areas that remain unclear.
- Review your lecture notes after each class. Try to work on your own the problems which were done in class. Note any areas of confusion and be sure to ask about them. Don’t procrastinate!
- Do the assigned homework after each lecture.
- Redo the problems that caused difficulty. Once again, do not use your book or notes until after you have worked the problem completely. Note those exercises that are still troublesome. Hopefully, there will be fewer such problems than the first time through. Redo these during your next study session, and so on. Eventually, you should be able to do ALL the problems without any aids. Remember that you cannot study chemistry without pencil and paper. Simply reading how to solve a problem is not enough to ensure you will be able to do the work on your own.
- If you need more drill, do and check some of the unassigned problems and the cumulative review.
- Study with other members of the course. We will be happy to help you to team up with others who are so inclined.

EXTRA HELP

The instructional staff of Chemistry 134 is committed to helping you succeed. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to come to office hours, stay after class, or send e-mail. The Learning Resource Center will be providing tutoring as well as help with learning strategies. We urge you to explore these avenues.