



Deer Valley Unified School District

Mrs. Karey Viramontes
Course Title: General Chemistry

Prep: 2nd hour
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Course Description:

Chemistry is a laboratory science that includes the study of elements, mixtures and compounds, and the changes that they undergo. This course is conceptual and will involve hands-on activities and labs, technology, and classroom discussion. This course will teach you useful information, both about Chemistry and the world around you that you will use for the rest of your life. Be prepared to work very hard and have fun this year. This course is aligned with district, state, and national standards to support school-wide efforts in increasing student achievement.

Course Standards: By the time the student completes the course of study he or she will be able to:

1. Develop and use models to explain the relationship of the structure of atoms to patterns and properties observed in the Periodic Table and describe how these models are revised with new evidence.
2. Develop and use models for the transfer or sharing of electrons to predict the formation of ions, molecules, and compounds in both natural and synthetic processes.
3. Ask questions, plan, and carry out investigations to explore the cause and effect relationship between reaction rate factors.
4. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information about how the use of chemistry related technologies have had positive and negative ethical, social, economic, and/or political implications.
5. Construct an explanation for a field's strength and influence on an object (electric, gravitational, magnetic).
6. Collect, analyze and interpret data regarding the change in motion of an object or system in one dimension, to construct an explanation using Newton's Laws.
7. Engage in argument from evidence that the net change of energy in a system is always equal to the total energy exchanged between the system and the surroundings.
8. Engage in argument from evidence regarding the ethical, social, economic, and/or political benefits and liabilities of energy usage and transfer.
9. Construct an explanation about the relationships among the frequency, wavelength, and speed of waves traveling in various media, and their applications to modern technology.
10. Construct an explanation based on evidence to illustrate the role of nuclear fusion in the life cycle of a star.

Classroom Expectations: In addition to strictly following all MRHS handbook rules, I expect the following to occur in my classroom:

1. **Be There** – It is important that you are in class regularly and on time. Not only should you physically be in class but also mentally. Students should take advantage of time with the instructor to pay attention and ask questions as needed.
2. **No food or drinks in the classroom** – We might be using substances that may contaminate what you put in your mouth. This is for your own health and safety.
3. **Listen and participate**- A lot of the learning for this class takes place when I am talking with you or you are collaborating in your groups! So, please be sure to truly and actively listen and when appropriate, participate. **During labs & other group activities, 50% of your grade will come from in class participation.**
4. **Get Additional Help (tutoring) ASAP:** In addition to the Academic Prep times built into our schedule each week, additional assistance/tutoring is provided on a weekly basis both by MRHS and individually by me. My weekly availability will be posted in the classroom at the start of each week. I will demonstrate to the students how to find availability each week.

Plagiarism/Cheating:

Plagiarism is the use of someone else's work and reporting it as your own, or the giving of your work to another student to use as their own. Both instances are considered cheating and will not be tolerated. Any assignments that are plagiarized, or copied will not be accepted and the student using the copied work as well as the original author of the work (if the cheating is "peer to peer") will both receive a zero for the assignment and may both face additional consequences at the school level in accordance with the MRHS Student Handbook. There are also strict "no talking" and "no technology access" during all assessment (tests, quizzes and final exam). Any violation of these policies, regardless of the reasons/motives will result in the assessment being confiscated and a score of zero entered into the grade-book on the assessment. In addition, consequences at the school level may also occur in accordance with the MRHS Student handbook. Using a phone during a test session will result in a zero.

Grades:

Grading Scale (grades will NOT be rounded)

A = 100 - 90
B = 89 - 80
C = 79 - 70
D = 69 - 60
F = 59 - 0

Grades will be weighted as follows:

10% Homework/Assignments
20% Labs/projects
70% Assessments

***There is no extra credit or late work**

Homework:

Homework will be a crucial part of your grade. The benefit of doing your homework each night does not lie in the points you earn. The benefit lies in your performance on tests and quizzes. If you do your homework (with reasonable effort), you will do well in this class.

Mountain Ridge students have within the current unit of study to turn in assigned homework for full credit. However, students will have 1 week to turn in assignments from the assigned due date even if the unit is completed.

Any form of cheating will result in a zero on all assignments, quizzes, tests, & labs.

Test and Quizzes:

Summative Tests will always be announced at least 2 days prior. These tests will cover several units of study.

We will have announced and unannounced quizzes throughout the year. The quizzes are to keep you on track with your work in this class. This is not a class that you can fall behind in and catch up easily.

Makeup Policy and Long Term Project Policy:

- After an absence, a student has one school day for each day missed to make up work/tests, regardless of the number of days absent. If many days were missed, please schedule an appointment with me to formulate a plan for the completion of make-up work. Make-up work for extended absences (over 3 days) may be requested through the Counseling Office and picked up there.
- If you are absent for any reason it is your responsibility to come to me or reference Canvas to get the work that you missed. **Failure to complete absent work by the deadline, outlined by the above absence policy, will result in a 0 for that assignment.** When you have completed your assignment & submitted it, you must notify Mrs. Viramontes, verbally or through email, that it has been submitted late due to an absence.
- Any long-term projects assigned in class will be given one date that the assignment is due. All students must turn this project in on that date at the beginning of class whether the student is at school or absent. Get the assignment time stamped by the front desk if it is not given directly to the teacher.
- **Academic Assistance:** In addition to the Academic Prep times built into our schedule each week, additional assistance/tutoring is provided on a weekly basis both by MRHS and individually by instructors. Those dates and times will be posted in the classroom.

Science Department Retake Policy:

You will have the opportunity to retake all announced, Summative tests (which cover multiple units of study) to improve the original score earned. In order to take advantage of this policy, a student **must: 1)** be present and take the original exam **2)** declare their desire to re-test and get an after-school or aca-prep appointment scheduled within **one** week from the time the original, graded exam is handed back. **3)** Complete and submit all missing work from the unit.

Laboratory:

- Students are not allowed in the lab unless given explicit permission by the teacher.
- Correct lab procedure will be explained before each lab and students must follow the lab safety rules reviewed at the start of the semester.
- Inappropriate behavior in the lab will not be tolerated. Students will be asked to leave the lab and will not receive credit.
- NO food, gum, water bottles, or phones will be allowed in lab.

MRHS Laboratory Breakage Policy

The Mountain Ridge Science Department has a policy regarding the damage or breakage of laboratory equipment. In the event a student breaks any laboratory materials, that student will be responsible for paying the replacement cost of each item. The students are taught proper procedures and laboratory etiquette to ensure the safety of our students during lab activities. This policy helps hold the students accountable for their actions and reinforces careful laboratory procedures.

Additional Rules: (in accordance with the handbook)

- No food, drinks, or candy are allowed in the classroom. Only water bottles with **clear** water will be allowed.
- **Parents are to call the school directly in case of an emergency. Please do not use cell phones to contact your child.**

Power Schools & Canvas On-line Access:

Parents, grades and attendance may be accessed 24 hours a day online with your Power School access code. Access codes are available in the Counseling Office or Front Desk Monday – Friday 7:00 AM– 3:30 PM. You may check student progress regularly on the PowerSchool site using the same login for one or more students. For Mountain Ridge parents/guardians without home computer access, a computer with guest log-in capability is available in the Counseling Conference Room.

All notes and assignments can be found on canvas. To gain access to this information please sign up for a parent account on the canvas website.

Report Cards

In an effort to conserve resources and harness the capacity of our electronic grade reporting program (PowerSchool) district schools will no longer print hard copies of report cards unless requested by individual parents. To request a hard copy of your student's report card, please contact the front office at 623-376-3000. To receive your PowerSchool login, please stop into the office with a valid photo ID.

Technology usage:

Students should come to school with their iPads charged and ready to use in each class every day. Cellphones are not tolerated unless student has completed all class work and are given permission by teacher. If student does not abide by these rules, the teacher begin appropriate discipline procedure.

Calculator Policy:

A scientific calculator will be used frequently in this chemistry course. If a student does not have a scientific calculator, he/she is welcome to use the class set of calculators; with the understanding they are responsible for any damages and/or the calculator must be returned at the end of the class period. Cell phones may not be substituted for calculators during class work.

Recommended materials for this Course:

- Scientific calculator or Desmos App downloaded on iPad
- iPad every day