

CANYON HILLS HIGH SCHOOL

Honors Chemistry & Chemistry in The Earth's System
'24-'25 Course Syllabus

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Course Description

This course is a one-year introductory chemistry course, following SDUSD's 3 course model that integrates Earth Science into the Chemistry curriculum. Chemistry and Honors Chemistry will prepare students for further study in Advanced Placement or college sciences. Students will develop a conceptual framework for chemistry and an appreciation of science as a process. We will be building our understanding of scientific literacy in the form of visualizations and modeling to provide ourselves the opportunities to explore curiosities about the world around us from a molecular standpoint. This course will foster an environment that promotes and prioritizes learning and effort.

I have three major goals as your teacher this year:

1. To provide opportunities for you to recognize just how science connects to your life
2. To help you recognize that you're already participants in science and its practices
3. To partner with you in developing what it means to learn in science

Course Expectations

Students are expected to put forth their **best effort every day of class**. I will do everything I can to ensure that you will be successful in chemistry because I already know that you are all capable. However, this will require a **cooperative effort** between us.

Here are our goals for one another:

- Students will be well-rounded and thoughtful problem solvers/scientists.
- Students will command the scientific literacy and background necessary to be well-informed and responsible citizens.
- Students will recognize the relevance of science to their lives.

Students will be required to take responsibility for managing their attendance, due dates, and assessments as per Canyon Hills High School's policies through district provided platforms such as Canvas, PowerSchool, and their district emails.

Requirements and expectations of this course may change in the future as policies update, but students and parents will be informed through the course's online channels.

Class Rules:

1. Use appropriate language and respect each other at all times.
2. Follow all lab instructions and rules.
3. Be on time and ready to learn.
4. Each student must sign in and out to use a 5 Star pass during class, and not exceed 7 minutes per trip; passes may not be used in the first or last 15 minutes of class.

Cell Phones:

It is a [district-wide and school wide policy](#) for all cell phones to be put away during class and the same will be reflected in our class. As long as cell phones are out of sight and not a disturbance to your learning and/or others' learning, everything will be fine. We will have designated spots for cell phones for **voluntary** holding, but please help us as we navigate this new culture shift in our classrooms.

Grading:

NGSS emphasizes the process of science and engages students in learning experiences. As such, student engagement in classwork or other in-class activities will constitute **30% of the total grade**. The things that constitute this grade are **in class opportunities that allow for us to grow and develop our skills in meaningful ways** (e.g. worksheets, introductory lab work, class discussions, etc.). The goal is not just completion of the work we do in class but that opportunities are provided for the class so that each student can participate in meaningful work each day to the best of their capabilities so that they can grow and blossom. At critical points of each unit, **students will be assessed through different moments to showcase and apply the skills and content standards** that have been given through the classwork (e.g. tests, quizzes, projects, lab work, etc.). This Assessment portion will constitute **70% of the total grade**.

Final Grades: Grades are earned based on students' demonstration of mastery of the content standards. Letter grades will be assigned according to the points earned by the student. As students have regular opportunities for revision, teachers will not round up or down to the next letter grade (e.g. an 89.4% earns a letter grade of B).

A = 90%-100%	Classwork	30%
B = 80%-89%	Assessments	70%
C = 70%-79%		
D = 60- 69%		
F = 59% and below		

Retakes/Corrections (Assessments):

Students will have an opportunity to retake after doing the revisions on the assessment (which are worth 70% of the student's grade) to get up to 100% on the assessment. The retakes will be organized by individual standards from the assessment. There will be multiple opportunities to revise and correct the assessment as needed. All retakes/corrections will need to be submitted by the end of the next unit, which would be the next unit test. [The full retake policy is given here.](#)

Late Work Policy (Classwork):

This year, students will be responsible for keeping pace and turning work in on time. **Late classwork in the 30% category may be accepted up to the end of the unit after the assignment was assigned.** The student will not receive any penalty for turning in the assignment within the unit period. After the unit the assignment is closed and will not open for submissions. See attendance for expectations on deadlines for absent work.

Extra Credit:

Extra credit will not be offered to increase the scores for assignments or assessments. Rather, students will have the opportunity to raise their grades through corrections/revisions.

Citizenship:

Citizenship grades are awarded based on behavior and attendance in class. This grade is based on student's participation in class activities, attendance and tardies. This grade is separate from the academic letter grade determined through classwork and assessments.

Attendance:

Parents & Students: Please use PowerSchool to track grades and attendance!

Attendance is crucial to your success in this class as science is best learned collaboratively and actively. In case of excused absence the student is responsible for arranging with the teacher how and when to make up missed work. **Communication is key and I want to be as much help as possible!**

- In the case of an excused absence a student has the number of days missed to make up missed assignments for full credit.
 - Assessments, missed due to excused absence, will occur upon return within the number of school days of excused absence. Students must contact me to arrange this.
- Students are responsible for checking their PowerSchool records at least once a week, in the event of discrepancies of attendance and grades, the issues need to be fixed within 5 school days.

Tardies:

Be through the threshold of the door when the bell rings or you will be marked tardy. You will need a signed late pass to have the tardy cleared. **Canyon Hills High School attendance policies will be followed, see student handbook about tardies during distance learning.**

Academic Integrity: .

- You are responsible for your own learning. Using someone else's work as your own is unacceptable.
- Any form of cheating and/or plagiarism will not be tolerated and will result in a 0, on the whole assignment, to all parties involved. The student(s) involved in cheating will not be able to revise or correct the assignment. **See Student Handbook for CHHS policy.**

1st offense: "0" on assignment for offender and accomplice (if one exists)

2nd offense: "0" on assignment for offender and accomplice (if one exists) as well as contact with parents/admin

3rd offense: Dropped from class with "F" or "withdrawal"

Online Resources:

- [See Canvas for all classwork materials](#)

Office Hours:

- I will be available after school for office hours. This will be by appointment only.
- Best time to reach me during the day is from 7:30am to 4pm, through phone, email, or canvas.

Student/Parent Agreement

- By filling out the following form, you and your parent/guardian acknowledge that you have read through the syllabus and understand the expectations outlined for this class. Parents/guardians will be reached out to when necessary using the information provided on this form.

[2024-2025 Syllabus Contract Form](#)