*Pre-AP Chemistry*

Course Information Sheet

**TEACHER**

Dr. Greyhm Furst

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Chemistry includes the study of the structure, composition and behavior of matter, as well as factors that affect the interaction of matter. Laboratory investigations enhance the emphasis of process skills and laboratory safety. Students may apply chemical knowledge to problem solving, classifying matter, quantifying chemicals, and predicting chemical phenomena. Students use decision making and critical thinking to propose possible solutions in the study of issues concerning science and technology. Please visit <http://www.fortbendisd.com> for a detailed description of the course content.

**TEXTBOOK**

**Pre-AP/Honors/Advanced** Chemistry, 2013 by: Wilbraham, Staley, Matta, and Waterman

**\***This is our new adoption year. Books are currently available in class sets. All students will receive online codes for chemistry textbooks. Students requiring physical books will need to set that up through your AP or counselor.

**CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS**

1. Students will follow all campus rules and expectations as stated in the student handbook in addition to rules posted within the classroom.
2. Students will be seated with all necessary materials when the tardy bell rings.
3. Students will demonstrate respect for self, for others and for school and personal property at all times.
4. Students will refrain from bringing food and/or drinks into a science classroom.

**GRADING POLICY**

* **Major -** 50% of the nine weeks average (includes unit exams, projects, and written lab reports)
* **Daily -** 50% of the nine weeks average (class work, classroom and laboratory participation, homework, and journal)

When solving problems, the process is more important than the numerical answer. To emphasize this, your work will be graded as follows:

* 80% - showing the process (setting up the equation, manipulating it, and plugging in the numbers)
* 10% - the correct numerical answer
* 10% - the correct units

There will be no exceptions to this policy – it will be applied to daily work as well as all major tests. **You must show all of your work as instructed in class to receive full credit!**

**\*Questions about grades are not answered during instructional time. You may make grade requests before or after school\***

**SAFETY CONTRACT**

All secondary science students in Fort Bend ISD must have a ***Student Safety Contract***, cosigned by the student and a parent/guardian, on file with the school prior tousing any laboratory materials and equipment. Laboratory safety rules are printed on thecontract and a copy will be given to each student. The signed safety contract must be returned by Friday August 28, 2015.

**SAFETY QUIZ**

Your first grade in this course will include a safety quiz. You will have to correct this quiz before you will be able to complete any laboratory experiments in this class.

**REQUIRED MATERIALS**

* Note taking material – notes may be taken in a spiral or on loose leaf paper, but all should be kept neatly together in a 3-ring binder exclusive to Chemistry (pen, pencil, paper separate from the composition book)
* Textbook
* Scientific Calculator (graphing calculator is NOT necessary)

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| --- | --- |
| First Semester | Second Semester |
| Lab safetyDimensional analysisScientific ProcessesAtomic StructureMatter and changeThe Periodic TableChemical bondingChemical FormulasBalancing chemical equationsReaction types | Chemical EquationsChemical Quantities, stoichiometryGas LawsStates of MatterSolutionsAcids and BasesNuclear chemistryReaction energy and ratesEquilibriumOxidation and Reduction |

**COURSE OUTLINE**

**\***A detailed course outline will be posted on the school website

**LATE AND MAKE-UP WORK**

Please read closely and follow all rules established in the RPHS student handbook regarding late or make-up work due excused and unexcused absences. It is the responsibility of the student to recover all missed assignments or notes given during class. For an absence lasting more than two days, a parent/guardian should request that work be left for pick up at the front office or have assignments emailed home.

Pre AP Chemistry students are required to perform and submit online homework through UT Quest. We will go over the procedures for logging in UT Quest in class and set passwords. The assignments are given about 2-3 days to complete and submit before a grade is taken. **There is no make-up work given for missing UT Quest homework.**

**STARTING CLASS/ENDING CLASS**

Each day you should come prepared to work in class. Preparedness generally means having two or more writing utensils, paper/binder/spiral, and all administered resources. Backpacks and/or bags should be lout of plain view, put to the back of the room or at your feet during class. Bags are not allowed on the desks or table tops. As you enter the room please obtain any paperwork/handouts left out for you and turn in any homework assignments to the designated basket. Assignments not in the basket at attendance will be considered late. Find your seat and begin the posted warm up assignment. In addition, you will always write down the posted daily objective and agenda at the beginning of your notes. At the end of class, we will use the last two-three minutes collecting class assignments, reviewing the daily objective, and picking up and discarding trash. I will dismiss you as a class after the bell sounds when I check that the room is clean.

**RESTROOM BREAKS**

**No restroom breaks are allowed on test or laboratory days.** Emergencies do arise, so breaks are at the discretion of teacher. Please take care of your personal needs during passing times so as to not be a distraction to the others in class. Please do not interrupt a lesson to be excused to the bathroom. Be courteous to the others in the class and wait until a stopping point.

**TUTORIALS**

A comprehensive tutorial schedule will be posted for all science teachers during the first week of school. If you cannot make one of my sessions, please see one of the other Chemistry teachers for help during their tutorial hours. Other teachers of Chemistry this year are: Mr. Braly, Ms. Cameron, Mrs. Sexton (lead), and Ms. Williams-Sykes.

**DISCIPLINE ISSUES**

Discipline will be dealt with in accordance with the RPHS student handbook. As a rule the following actions will take place:

1. First offense – verbal warning
2. Second offense – teacher-student conference and phone call to parent
3. Third offense – office referral, parent-teacher conference

**Please fill in the information below and return it to Dr. Furst by Friday, August 28th, 2015**

I have read and understand the policies and expectations for Dr. Furst’s Chemistry class.

STUDENT NAME\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

STUDENT SIGNATURE\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ DATE\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

PARENT NAME\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

PARENT SIGNATURE\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ DATE\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_