Chemistry 101A — Spring 2012

General College Chemistry

Instructor

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Schedule

Lecture: TR 10:10-12:00 PM, Room: Science Hall 136
Final Exam: Friday, May 18, 1:30-4:30 PM, Room to be announced
Lab Options: *MW 1-4* (Glenn); *MW 1-4* (Solow); *TR 2-5* (Glenn)

Prerequisites

To enroll in Chem 101A, you must satisfy the following two prerequisites.

1) **Mathematics**: you must pass Math 860 or a higher math course, or you must place into Math 90 or a higher course on the CCSF algebra placement exam. If you have taken an appropriate math course at another college, you need to bring your grade report or transcript to the CCSF Matriculation Office, Conlan Hall 204. If you have only taken math in high school, you must take the placement test.

2) **Chemistry**: you must pass Chem 40, or you must place into Chem 101A on the CCSF chemistry placement exam. *We do not accept courses at other colleges that are equivalent to Chem 40.* If you have taken a chemistry course that is equivalent to Chem 101A at another college, or if you took the AP chemistry test and scored 3 or higher, you may take Chem 101A without taking the chemistry placement test. Bring proof of your course grade or AP score to Dr. Ray Fong, Science Hall 236. (You must still satisfy the math requirement.)

Materials

Chemical Principles, 6th edition (2008), by Zumdahl. You may also use the 5th edition
Chemistry 101A Laboratory Manual, CCSF Chemistry Dept., 11th edition (2003)
Scientific calculator
Safety glasses and lab notebook – more info in lab
Optional: *Partial Solutions Guide*, Hummel and Zumdahl, 6th edition (2009)

The *Chemical Principles* textbook can be purchased at the college bookstore or through an online retailer (such as Amazon, Abe Books, or Alibris.) I realize that textbooks are very expensive and I encourage you to seek out low-cost options (such as buying the older 5th edition online or checking with the book loan program run by the CCSF Associated Students.) A very limited number of copies of the textbook are available at the reserve desk in the college library, but you should **not** attempt to take Chem 101A without purchasing the textbook.

Website

http://www.ccsf.edu/chemistry/glenn/chem101a
This website will be your source for class announcements, topic assignment sheets (which include required homework assignments), supplemental handouts and answer keys to all homework, quizzes and exams.

Grading

Approximate Point Distribution		***Tentative Grade Scale***	
Homework	**50**	**A**	**85-100%**
Quizzes	**50**	**B**	**75-85%**
Exams	**350**	**C**	**60-75%**
Final Exam	**200**	**D**	**50-60%**
Lab	**100**	**F**	**0-50%**

The tentative grade scale may be lowered if appropriate; it will not be raised. The grading in this course is ***not*** on a curve. Cooperation and working together are encouraged. A midterm grade update will be provided after the second exam. Please keep all your graded material. Report any perceived grading error to me during office hours as soon as possible.

Assignments and Assessment

Topic Assignment Sheets are posted online (they will not be handed out in class!!), so it is your responsibility to print them out. These assignment sheets list learning objectives for each lecture topic, assigned reading, recommended practice problems and required homework problems. Exams will focus on the learning objectives, reading, and problems provided on these assignment sheets.

Homework problems are included with each Topic Assignment Sheet posted online. Due dates for homework will be announced during lecture. You will get full credit for promptly turning in a reasonably complete assignment. You will be allowed to miss two homework sets without penalty, but you will get a zero for all additional missed homework assignments. Late homework received within one week of the due date will be accepted for partial credit. Homework that is turned in more than one week late will receive no credit. The solutions to the homework problems will be available online. It is **your responsibility** to review and correct your work using the posted solutions. Please use these keys appropriately and effectively. Simply copying the answers will not be productive and the result of this habit will show in your exam scores! *The only way you can learn chemistry is by doing chemistry – the more problems you do, the better you will get. Learning is hard work, and homework is a learning assignment. As a consequence, expect homework assignments will be time consuming and challenging.*

Quizzes will be given periodically throughout the semester. Quiz dates and topics will be announced at least one class period in advance. Quizzes will be short and will take place at the start of the scheduled class period. There will be at least three quizzes, though additional quizzes may be scheduled. Solutions will be available online after the graded quiz is returned. ***No make-up quizzes are available.*** *(However, attending Supplemental Instruction or Chem C study sessions can be used to offset a low quiz average. See the section "Additional Help in Chem 101A" for details.)*

Exams include four midterm exams and a comprehensive final exam. The first three midterms will take the full lecture period, the fourth midterm will take half of the lecture period. Midterms will cover concepts from lecture and laboratory. Each midterm exam will focus primarily on the most recent topics, but you will be expected to understand and apply the material from earlier parts of Chem 101A on the later exams. The final exam is a cumulative, three-hour exam at the end of the semester. The exam dates and topics are listed in the course schedule handout.

No make-up exams will be given for any reason. If you miss one exam due to an excused absence (instructor approval required), you will be assigned a "make-up" score for that exam based on your performance on the relevant material on the final exam. If you miss two exams, you will be given an F.

Laboratory work is a required. You must be registered in one of the three Chem 101A lab sections linked to this lecture section. Lab Options: *MW 1-4* (Glenn); *MW 1-4* (Solow); *TR 2-5* (Glenn). (This lab enrollment policy differs from that of previous semesters. You must be in one of these sections; you cannot be in any other lab section!) Each laboratory instructor will outline his/her grading procedure. All laboratory grades may be normalized (i.e. adjusted) to ensure fairness of grading across all three lab sections. ***Regular attendance in the laboratory is required****; students who miss four or more experiments, regardless of the reason, will be given an F in Chem 101A.*

Classroom Policies

Professionalism: Please strive to maintain the best learning environment possible. In order to ensure that all students gain the maximum benefit from lecture, we ask that you observe the following:

- ***Turn all cell phones to "silent" mode***, and do not use your cell phone during class time. (If you feel that you must use it for text messages or other quiet tasks, please ***sit in the back of the room*** where you will not distract other students.)
- ***Please arrive on time!*** It is very distracting to other students when a number of people arrive late, one after the other. *Be here and ready to learn by 10:10 AM; earlier is preferred and appreciated.*
- ***Please do not plan to leave early*** unless you have an unavoidable, one-time obligation. If you must leave early, sit on the aisle and let the instructor know what time you will be leaving.

Participation: You are encouraged to participate actively in lecture. You are welcome to ask questions during class time, but please be aware that you may be referred to office hours if time is limited or if your question is outside the scope of Chem 101A.

Academic Integrity: Academic dishonesty (cheating) in any form will not be tolerated and will result in disciplinary action. Cheating on an exam or quiz will result in a zero for that assignment and may result in the student being dropped from the course.

Attendance: Any student who turns in no work for two consecutive weeks OR any student who misses two consecutive quizzes and/or exams OR any student who falls below 25% of the possible points on quizzes and exams is subject to being dropped from Chem 101A.

Withdraw option: Students may withdraw from the course according to the following dates:

February 9th – Last day to withdraw without receiving a "W", no notation will appear on record

Aril 19th – Last day to withdraw from the course and receive a "W" instead of a letter grade

It is the student's responsibility to withdraw from the course. If you have questions or concerns about withdrawing, please talk with me during office hours.

Additional Help in Chem 101A

If you need additional help with the material in this course, consider the following resources:

1) **Chemistry C** is a one-unit class that provides assistance in solving problems of the types found in Chem 101A. There are no exams or homework assignments in Chem C, and enrollment is limited to allow individual attention from the instructor. Grading is credit/no credit, and is based on attendance and your final grade in Chem 101A. This course meets on Fridays for one and a half hours each week. You must enroll in this class in order to attend: Friday 9:00-10:30, S-201 (CRN 32580), taught by Jim Armstrong.

2) **Supplemental Instruction (SI)** sections meet weekly and focus on understanding course content through group activities. SI leaders are former 101A students who were specially selected and trained to lead these collaborative learning sections. SI sessions rely on structured group work. Please arrive on time and plan to stay for the duration of the session (one hour). Additional hours are available. Although sessions may exceed one hour, how long you stay beyond the first hour is up to you. Session times and leaders will be announced during lectures.

3) **Drop-in tutoring** is available at the Learning Assistance Center, which is located on the 2nd floor of the library, room 207. Tutoring is done by CCSF students who have completed Chem 101A with distinction. There is no cost for this service. We will post tutoring schedules as soon as they are settled.

You will gain the most benefit from these support options if you consistently attend throughout the semester. As an attendance incentive, if you regularly participate in Supplemental Instruction, Chem C, or tutoring, **your lowest lecture quiz score will be dropped** at the end of the semester. Consistent attendance is defined as any of the following:

a) Participate in 12 SI sessions (no registration necessary, just start attending and sign in)
b) Participate in 12 Chem C meetings (you must register in this class before the add deadline)
c) Log 24 ***chemistry*** tutoring hours in the LAC (you'll need to log in for chemistry tutoring)

You are encouraged to commit to regular study session times (i.e. always attending Chem C, or always attending SI.) You may, however, do any combination of the above to reach a total of twelve study sessions (note that two hours of tutoring is counted as equivalent to one SI or Chem C session). This gives you some flexibility. For example, you could attend ten SI sessions and log four hours of tutoring, etc.