

Dear IBMYP Chemistry Student and Parents,

Welcome!

I hope you will find IBMYP Chemistry challenging, stimulating, and fun. Chemistry, the study of matter, is a practical course that allows the student to understand the properties and changes that materials can undergo. These macroscopic properties are intimately related to the submicroscopic world which provides a theoretical background for understanding our everyday observations of the materials around us. Scientific reasoning and problem solving skills you will gain in the study of chemistry will aid you regardless of your choice of major in college.

No study of chemistry is complete without a thorough laboratory program in which the student can witness chemical principles firsthand. I believe that a good understanding of chemistry should be grounded in the lab. This hands-on approach will sharpen your observational skills and give you valuable practice at writing reports that clearly demonstrate your abilities to gather data as evidence to support chemical principles.

Let me warn you that **inherent in the study of chemistry are periods of frustration.** With each new topic there will be a period in which you will experience this frustration. Initial periods of being puzzled will be followed by true understanding if you put the effort into the study of chemistry. I will always be available to clarify your misconceptions.

Please review the following information about assignments, grading, class requirements, etc. and other policies for this course.

If you have questions, I can always be reached at my school e-mail (lauren1.peace@cms.k12.nc.us). <http://peacechem.weebly.com/> I look forward to a great semester in chemistry!

Lauren Peace

Unit Number	Title
1	Introduction to Chemistry
2	Measurement and Problem Solving
3	The Mole Concept
4	Atomic Structure/Periodic Table
5	The Chemical Bond
6	States of Matter

### Grading

Assessments will be done in four areas:

- Mini Assessments
- Labs
- Unit Tests
- Projects and Activities

Homework assignments accompany each lecture within the unit. Students should review the lecture notes before attempting the corresponding homework assignments. Not attempting the homework will have a drastic effect on your grade because you will lose the chance to test your understanding of the concepts covered in class. Doing the homework when assigned will allow you to find your misconceptions and get

clarification from your instructor. It means little to have perfect homework scores and then completely bomb the unit test-so make sure you focus on the concept being practiced and ask questions. I suggest that you store all homework assignments in a binder.

Mini-Assessments (Formal) are given periodically (every 2 to 3 days) in class. They are usually announced. These allow you to find your weak points and to seek corrective measures. The importance of mini assessments is to alert you to your misconceptions or weak points so that you can take corrective measures before the unit test. I suggest that you store these in a binder, as well.

Lab reports (Informal) will be submitted for each of the labs done during the year. If you are working with lab partners, it is required that all members participate and all lab partners must have a copy of the report. It is imperative that you work as team.

Unit tests (Formal) consist of multiple-choice questions and free response questions.

Projects and other activities will also be averaged as formal or informal assessments at my discretion.

### Absences

If you are absent due to illness or some other emergency, contact a peer or myself to find out what you've missed, so that you will be prepared for class upon your return. (You are not exempt from an assessment if you are absent the day prior to the assessment.) If you are aware of an upcoming absence, request and take care of assignments prior to the absence.

### **Grading policy for late work and qualifiers for retesting will follow**

### Textbook

I provide copies of all necessary materials to be successful (lecture notes, HW, labs) but I encourage you to use your text as a support resource. Locate the unit we are covering in class through the index or table of contents and work extra problems. If a particular topic is still unclear after the practice, read the corresponding section in the textbook. Many times hearing/reading information from multiple sources will help you absorb and integrate the material. The textbook for the course is located online.

### Class Requirements

Three ring binder to keep a portfolio of activities and assignments in order.

Scientific Calculator-You may not share calculators on mini-assessments or tests. **You may not use a cell phone.**

Colored Pencils

Loose leaf paper

**Ream of copy paper**

### Suggestions for Success

**-Complete all homework assignments, prior to class.** Ask questions in class. Then, spend a few minutes that night reviewing or rereading the lecture and re-working any problems which you found challenging. Continue to revisit each lecture, homework assignment, and mini assessment each night. It is expected that you will need to rework problems multiple times for mastery. Spend at least 30-45 minutes per night on Chemistry.

-Join/Create a study group.

-Stay after school or come in early for tutoring. Come with specific questions. I am here after school most days.

**-Don't rely on retesting if you want a sound understanding of the material and subsequently a good grade.**

Tentative Formal Assessments per Quarter

Q1	5 mini assessments, Unit 1 Test 3 mini assessments, Unit 2 Test 5 mini assessments, Unit 3 Test 4 mini assessments, Unit 4 Test	Q2	Unit 4 Test 5 mini assessments, Unit 5 Test 4 mini assessments, Unit 6 Test 2 mini assessments
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This is subject to change due to time.

Classroom Rules

- 1. Always be respectful**
  - Be respectful of yourself, your teacher, your peers, and property
  - Be respectful by keeping noise to a minimum and not speaking when others are speaking
- 2. Be accountable**
  - Be accountable for your work, attitude, and actions. Come in with positivity!
- 3. Follow directions**
  - Wait in your seat until instructions are given
- 4. Be prepared for learning**
  - Start on work posted on the board
  - Turn in homework to appropriate bin
- 5. PARTICIPATE**
  - Ask questions
  - Be engaged in your learning!

**Cell phones:**

**Cell phones should be turned off and out of view. Those that are not will be confiscated.**

**Consequences:**

1. Verbal Warning
2. 1:1 Conversation
3. Behavior Accountability Sheet/Parent Contact
4. Referral
5. Removal from class

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent email address** \_\_\_\_\_

Parent cell phone \_\_\_\_\_ Parent home phone \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Feedback and Special Concerns:

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