Chemistry
Advanced Placement
UWGB CCIHS CHE-211/CHE213
2019-2020

Instructor: Christina Porath, Oconto High School

Meeting times: MTWRF 9:00 AM – 9:44 AM
           September 3, 2019 – May 28, 2020

Prerequisite: Successful completion of College Chemistry

Class Objective: To complete the UWGB curriculum, and, for some, prepare for the AP Chemistry Exam in May (5/7), and for a smooth transition into a college level chemistry course.

*CCIHS Students: Remember that you need to decide by the middle of SEPTEMBER if you plan to also enroll for UWGB credits. Upon your decision to enroll, your name will be submitted to the final roster, and tuition will be due to OHS sometime in January. The grade you earn in this class will transfer onto your UWGB transcript, so STAY MOTIVATED UNTIL THE VERY END!! Near the end of May / early June, you will be able to request a transcript from UWGB to be sent to your college. This form can be obtained from the UWGB website at http://www.uwgb.edu

Click on “Registrar” under the “Academics” drop-down menu, “Transcript” and follow the links to request your transcript.

Understand that you must become accustomed to the fact that it is OK to not know everything. But, if you remember to SHOW YOUR WORK for the Free Response section, your chances of partial points are increased tremendously. In the Multiple Choice section, the rule of thumb is that if you can eliminate at least one choice, it is best to guess.

Recommended Materials:
   3-Ring Binder: For daily notes, handouts, and study guides
   Notebooks: (1) For problem sets – this will be turned in on a regular basis, so it is best not to share your AP notebook with other classes (i.e. don't put Calculus problems in the same notebook!!)
   (1) For labs – we will keep a semi-formal lab notebook for the entire year
   Functional writing utensils  Highlighters – for notes, labs, problems...
   Notecards: to make flash cards for studying  Scientific calculator  Periodic table

Procedures:
   Daily: You will be supplied with a packet of notes containing the topics not covered in College Chemistry. We will go through these, as well as sample problems, together in class (generally Mon – Wed). You are responsible for reading the assigned chapters in Zumdahl on your own. You will be given a list of problems that are recommended for each chapter. Your completed problem set will be collected for grading on the day we finish that chapter/unit (usually on a Friday or exam day).

   Weekly: The goal is to deal with the chapter/unit notes Mon-Wed, and prepare for regular quizzes on the material as we learn it. We will have at least one lab per unit, so some weeks may not have a lab scheduled (depending on the length of the unit). *I am open to having “study group sessions” on Wednesday nights, beginning at 5:00 pm, and not going any later than 6:30 pm (for religion night). We will set this schedule right away, so that if you have other obligations to rearrange, this can be done early.
Quizzes: The goal is to have a quiz to review equation writing and solubility rules every week (usually Thursday). These will be in the AP exam format. We will also have regular quizzes on the notes and problems – to make sure you are keeping up with the material for each chapter!

Unit Exams: We will have an exam after each unit. These will include multiple choice and free response questions from old AP exams as well as a small selection of homework problems, and will concentrate on the topic(s) covered in the present unit. The exams may also include questions from topics we have not covered yet (or may not cover at all), so that you get a feel for seeing these types of questions. They will be graded as mini AP exams, and will be 75 minutes long.

Labs: The goal is to have at least one lab activity per chapter/unit. These will be taken from recommended AP lab sources. Information obtained from these labs is often included in both Multiple Choice and Free Response questions on the AP Exam. It is required that each student keeps a lab notebook.

Semester Exams: The first semester exam will be a standardized exam from UW-Marinette, to evaluate student progress in the course. This is to be used to compare our students to other UW students, and will be helpful in updating the curriculum each year so that we better prepare student transition into college chem. courses. Second semester we will do a week long qualitative analysis lab for our final exam.

Grading: Grades will be determined with the following weights:  
problem sets/other assigns: 15%  quizzes: 25%  labs: 25%  exams: 35%  

Problem sets will be mostly completion points. These, the homework quizzes, and labs will be graded on a normal scale. Exam grades will be assigned using the “10 x square root” rule. In other words, I’ll take the square root of the AP % you earn and multiply it by 10. For example, if you earn a 64% on an exam (AP score), your grade book score would be an 80%.

*As per the policy from UWGB, “Students will receive a zero for missed labs, quizzes and exams.”

STAY MOTIVATED!! It is extremely important to maintain a positive attitude and work ethic ALL THE WAY UNTIL THE EXAM DATE!! Don’t become a victim of “senior-itis” or simply quit when the going gets a little bumpy. In order to truly get the most out of this class, you need to stay on top of the daily and weekly assignments. It will be worth all the pain in the end!!

*Note that we are in the age of electronics, and I am aware of the infinite methods of obtaining answers without actually learning anything. Understand that I consider this “Academic Dishonesty” (or cheating), and I will not tolerate it in any form. I will award “ZERO” points to any work that is undoubtedly copied from another source. I understand that you will not master everything, or even many things, but it does you no good to just copy for fear of earning a poor grade. I am on your side, as long as your intentions are sincere.

Life after the AP Exam: The first couple days following the AP Exam in May will be spent discussing the exam itself. After that, we will complete the final exam lab. Then we may have about 1-2 more weeks to fill. I have a small list of demos, labs, and projects we could do, but am open to suggestions (under the condition they are appropriate and safe for the classroom environment!!). Be thinking of what would interest you, and let me know what you come up with ASAP (so I can check for materials and/or equipment).