Chemistry 2020-2021

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**Course Description**

Let’s get small! Chemistry explores the world around us with nano-glasses. We will be exploring familiar things in unfamiliar ways: through the lens of the tiny. This class fulfills all requirements for a lab-based chemistry class outlined in the state curriculum here: http://www.schools.utah.gov/curr/core.

**The topics we will explore this year are**

* Structure and properties of atoms
* Structure and properties of molecules
* Stability and change in chemical systems
* Energy in chemical systems

**Course Goals and Objectives:**

The goal of this course is to create active, engaged and skilled learners who are curious about the world around them. The course objectives are that students:

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| --- | --- |
| * Ask Questions and Define Problems * Develop and Use Models * Plan and Carry out Investigations * Analyze and Interpret Data * Use Mathematics and Computational Thinking | * Construct Explanations and Design Solutions * Engage in Argument from Evidence * Obtain, Evaluate, and Communicate Information |

**Course Materials:**

Students will keep a notebook, with class notes, a glossary and sample problems. The notebook will be their main text for studying. Students are expected to bring their notebook and a pen or pencil to class every day (zoom and in person). Though we will use sections from textbooks occasionally, students will not be assigned a textbook of their own unless they request one. Please request one if you think it will be helpful to you. A free online textbook is available at <https://emedia.uen.org/courses/utah-oer-textbooks-chemistry-seed/view>

**Grading:** Grades will be updated on the computer weekly and parents can access their students’ grade through PowerSchool <https://powerschool.slcschools.org/public/>

Individual assignment and assessment grades are available on Canvas

**Course Requirements:**

* Students are expected to attend all synchronous classes on Zoom, “arriving” on time and ready to work at the start of the zoom session. Daily materials to be brought to class include a pen or pencil, science journal, and relevant papers when applicable.
* Students are expected to complete all work assigned on Canvas on asynchronous days and on synchronous days when work is assigned during class.
* Work that is turned in late will receive 50% of the earned score. Students have one week to make up missing assignments for partial credit.
* If absent, students are expected to follow the absence procedure outlined on Canvas.
* Formal assessments will be given at the conclusion of every major topic. Assessment could be in the form of tests, projects or writing assignments.
* Students are encouraged to seek help if needed. Help sessions days and times are listed on Canvas.

**Final Note for Learning in 2020:**

Communication is always important, but it is imperative this year. We won’t “see” each other every day at first. I won’t always be standing next to you to see how you are doing. Tell me if the instructions are unclear, a link isn’t working, my estimated timing is way off, you need more help with a topic, etc. Please also tell someone if there is something happening in your world that is affecting your ability to learn. I want to be that someone, but I understand you may feel more comfortable with a different adult in the building. I truly believe that we will have some amazing scientific experiences exploring the teeny-tiny together this year!

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