

Chemistry for Non-Scientists – Chemistry 110

Hello everyone! I have received emails from a bunch of you, but I am making a few changes in the course, and those, along with a three month old daughter and a 2 year old son, meant that I could not answer the questions until now.

This course is designed for people with little or no background in science, so if you have taken any chemistry courses before and plan on using your science courses for a specific science-type job or major, this course is NOT for you. You should be taking courses in our main chemistry "stream", such as Chemistry 40, 101A, etc.

Course description:

Chemistry 110 is presentation of chemical principles designed for non-science students. The math requirements are very minimal - there is nothing more advanced than multiplication or division. The course emphasizes the chemical principles behind topics of current environmental, social, and scientific interest. In the course of learning about these topics, many of the basic chemical principles will be discussed and presented.

Textbook (REQUIRED)

Chemistry in Context, 5th Ed., American Chemical Society, 5th edition. You can buy this online fairly easily and cheaply as the 6th edition has just been released. We will still be using the 5th edition, so make sure you are buying the 5th edition. The cover of the 5th edition is yellow and brown. The color of the 6th edition is green. Make sure you get the yellow and brown color – the 5th edition. There is a copy on reserve in the Rosenberg Library on the Phelan campus. We will formally start using the textbook on Wednesday, August 27, so make sure you have the textbook by then.

I. In-person requirements: One of the changes in this course is that the orientation can be done in person or online. The only two times you HAVE to come to school are for the:

A. Mid-term exam **Wed., Oct. 15, 6-8pm, room S-204: Science building, Phelan Campus**

B. Final exam **Tues., Dec. 16, 6-9pm, room S-204: Science building, Phelan Campus**

C. Optional in-person orientation (you can do this yourself online if you are familiar with WebCT) is **Tues., Aug. 19, 5-6pm, room S-205: Science building, Phelan Campus.**

II. Normal Class activities/grading: There are weekly activities during the course. These include:

Orientation/week 1 activities (10 pts)

Quizzes every other week (7 x 10 pts each)

Midterm Exam (200 pts), see **time/location info above**

Final Exam (300 pts), see **time/location info above**

Discussion Contributions (~140 pts) – you will get full credit for these as long as you are making an honest effort.

Your grade will be determined by the percentage of points you earn.

A=87-100%, B=74-86.9%, C=60-73.9%, D=50-59.9%, Below 50%= F

Online chat “office hour”: I will be online in chat room 1 for one hour each week. Which hour depends on you. Right now I am planning on doing this each Tuesday from 4:30-5:30pm, but this may change depending on the needs of the class and my schedule.. If that is a bad time for you, let me know.

III. Start of the semester: In order to hold your spot in the class, you **must** come to the orientation **OR** you **must** complete all of the week 1 activities by the deadline (Wednesday, August 27). These should not take you much time and are designed to make sure you can navigate your way around the course. **The specific details for the week1 activities are listed below.** In order to do these, you will have to go to the website for the course and log in. Here is how you do that.

The course is not officially open until the first day of the semester, Monday, August 18. On that day, we will load your names into the course. By late that afternoon, all of you can then go online and check out the course. You will have to go to: <http://online.ccsf.edu/>

Your WebCT ID is your registration ID number. If your ID contains the @ symbol, replace the @ with a capital “X”

If you have taken an online course at CCSF before, your password is the same as it was for your other courses. If this is the first online class at CCSF you have registered for, your initial password is: changeme

WEEK 1 ACTIVITIES – due by Wednesday, Aug. 27 (worth 10 points)

1. Send me an email from the webCT course website.
2. Make a post to the week1 discussion – tell us a little about yourself and why you’re taking an online course as opposed to an in-person course. You can attach a picture if you want, but this is not required.
3. Respond to at least one other post.
4. Take the week1 quiz. Your score doesn’t matter, only the fact that you take it.

How to use WebCT for our course

The rest of this document is to let you know how webCT works. If you are already comfortable with using webCT, you may not have to read any further.

Once you log in at: <http://online.ccsf.edu/>, you can then you can click on the course that you are taking. Our course is Chemistry for Nonscientists. You should be taken to the homepage. I will be changing this on a weekly basis, letting you know what is going on. Most of the tools you will be using in this class are in the Course Menu, on the left part of the screen. This should be the yellow part of the screen.

The syllabus is self-explanatory. It details all the points, etc. for each part of the class.

The “Course Content” will take you to a list of the “units” in our course. Each unit corresponds to a chapter in our textbook and will last about 2 weeks. There are also a series of pages devoted to week1 activities.

To make a post to a discussion board, use the discussions link under the Course Menu. Click on “Discussions”, then choose which discussion board you’re posting to, click on “compose message”, type in your message (post), and then click on “post”. If you want to attach a picture/file etc., then do the following BEFORE you click on “post”. Click on “choose file”, then choose the file you are attaching, then click on “choose”, then click on “attach file”. This will attach the file to your post. When you click on “post” to send your message, the file you attached will go along with your post.

To go to a chat room, click on “Chat” under the Course Menu. Then choose the room and click on it. Type in your message in the area beneath the words “enter your message below”, and then hit the enter/return button on your keyboard. Your message should appear in the “output interaction box”.

Once the course begins, all email should be sent to me through the WebCT mail. Click on “Mail” under the course menu, click on “compose message” and type in your message. To decide to whom to send the email, click on “browse” and you should see a list of names. To choose someone, just click on their name. To choose more than one person, hold down either the shift or ctrl key while clicking on names. Then click on “send” to send your email.

To take a quiz, click on “Quizzes” under the course menu. Then click on the quiz you are taking. Choose the correct answer for each question. One important note, make sure you click

on “save answer” after you choose your answer for a question. Take the silly week1 quiz (the “points” for this don’t count - You get full credit for taking this quiz by the deadline, no matter what your answers are) by clicking on “week1 quiz”, then answer each question, and click on “save answer” when you are done. Make sure to submit your quiz by the time deadline.

This should cover most of the relevant stuff for week1. Take care, and I will “see” you soon, either in person at the orientation or online in the course!

Paul Herrmann