**Welcome to Chemistry!**

**Taught By:**

**Mrs. Kristin Mendez**

Room: S206

Telephone: (951) 894-5750 x6646

e-mail: **kmendez@murrieta.k12.ca.us** OR Canvas Inbox

**Course Description:**

Chemistry is the study of matter and how it changes. It is a ***college prep course*** and meets the UC and CSU requirements for a lab-based Physical Science. It ***requires*** memorization, competent math skills, abstract thinking, technical reading ability, good lab skills, and complex problem-solving skills. ***To be successful in chemistry you must take responsibility for individual learning and maintain a good work ethic***. The chemical concepts we will study include: atoms, molecules & compounds; molecular structure & properties; chemical reactions & stoichiometry; phase changes; energy & thermochemistry; as well as Earth cycles; climate & human impact.

**Semester 1**                                                              **Semester 2**

***Unit 1:*** Intro to Scientific Tools               ***Unit 5:*** Balancing Equations & Rxns

***Unit 2:***  Atoms and Periodic Table            ***Unit 6:*** Stoichiometry

***Unit 3:*** Chemical Bonds                              ***Unit 7:*** Energy & Earth System

***Unit 4:*** *IMFs* ***Unit 8:*** Equilibrium & Reaction Rates

**Grading Policy:**

* Grades will be assessed as follows:
  + Tests (including the final) & CERs: 60%
  + Quizzes: 20%
  + Assignments, Projects, Participation:  20%
* Grades will be assigned as follows:
  + A = 90-100%
  + B = 80-89.9%
  + C = 70-79.9%
  + D = 59.5-69.9%
  + F = Below 59.5%

**Required Materials:**

*\*\* It is imperative that you have these materials with you* ***EVERY DAY****!*

* ***Chemistry-specific*** **3 OR** **5-Subject spiral bound** notebook
* Pencil & Pen
* Scientific Calculator (***NOT a phone or iPod while in class***)

**Classroom Expectations:**

1. **Respect:** For yourself, classmates, and teachers.
2. **Follow Directions:** Please follow all verbal and written instructions, they are there for your safety and your learning. **Safety** is a number one concern in the science classroom, so please **follow directions.**
3. **Be Prepared and Be Responsible:** Come to class prepared with all required materials. Accept responsibility for grades and other consequences.
4. **No food, beverage cans, or unauthorized use of personal electronic devices in the classroom:** Except sealable water bottles. Students ***must*** place their phones in the Cell Hotel at the beginning of class.  Airpods/headphones are NOT to be worn during class (it’s just rude).
5. **Any misbehavior or inappropriate actions will receive consequences:** Keep your hands, arms, feet, and objects to yourself. ***Talk when appropriate***. And follow directions.

**Classroom Guidelines:**

* **Absences:** Please attend class everyday. If you miss a class (or classes) due to an absence, you will need to make up the assignment ***by yourself*** and update your notebook **immediately**. You have as many days equal to the number of days you were absent to turn in all missing work. Any later than that and you’ll be given late points. You never want to get behind in a class like chemistry! **Check Canvas for *everything* you will need!!**
* **DON’T CHEAT! DO YOUR OWN WORK!** No credit will be given for work that is copied OR for work that is loaned to another student to be copied. Likewise, any work that is **plagiarized** (i.e. copied and pasted from the internet OR copied straight from a “friend’s” notebook/lab report OR gotten from AI websites) will receive a zero and the student will be referred to administration. **Bottom Line:** Do your own work and keep it to yourself.
* **ALL ASSIGNMENTS GIVEN ARE DUE ON TIME!** Classwork and homework assignments are opportunities for students to get feedback on their progress. They will be scored using the following parameters: **5 = Turned in on-time AND complete** (this does NOT mean they got 100% on it, they MUST check their answers in class); **3 = Turned in LATE OR INCOMPLETE** (NO feedback will be given on the assignment); **1= Turned in WITHOUT a name** (can resubmit with name for LATE points); **0= Student copied/plagiarized the assignment**
* **LATE WORK:** Late work IS accepted; HOWEVER there are final deadlines! The late work submission window is the LAST day of each grading period (every 6 weeks). When the grading period ends, submission buttons on Canvas will disappear for late assignments. Get your work done ON TIME!
* **RETAKES:** You will have the opportunity to retake quizzes ONLY, **NOT tests or CERs**. You MUST complete the retake assignment BEFORE you come in for a retake.
* **Phones and Electronic Devices**
  + When you arrive to class, you will put your phone in YOUR assigned pocket of the Cell Hotel. It will stay there until you are dismissed to collect it at the end of class.
  + Your Airpods/headphones need to STAY in YOUR bag.  If you have them on during class, they will be confiscated and turned into the security office.
    - Do NOT charge Airpods in the Cell Hotel.

**Contact:**

If you or your parents have **any** questions at all about these policies and guidelines, please don’t be afraid to contact me in person, through the Inbox in Canvas, or through e-mail. I am here to help make your learning of chemistry exciting and thoughtful. I also hope to teach you knowledge and skills that you can draw from in your future, such as study skills, critical thinking, investigation, organization, teamwork, responsibility, self-discipline, independence, perseverance, and time-management.

**Academic Honesty Policy**

**Cheating means gaining unfair advantage by using unauthorized information.** Cheating is further defined by but not limited to:

* **COPYING** someone else’s homework, classwork, or test/quiz answers
* **ALLOWING** someone else to copy your work or test/quiz answers
* **USING** any kind of unauthorized device, study aid, or cheat sheet
* **USING AI** websites to write prompts and essays that should be YOUR own thoughts
* **POSSESSING** or **VIEWING** a copy of an exam or quiz beforehand
* **SHARING** test/ quiz information with students who have not yet taken the test/quiz or course
* **CHANGING** your answers or someone else’s when correcting in class
* **MISREPRESENTING** work done by others as your own work (aka **PLAGIARISM**)

**Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as one’s own without citing sources.**

* YOU ARE PLAGIARIZING when you copy a phrase, a paragraph, a page or an entire paper.
* YOU ARE PLAGIARIZING when you copy from a published source, i.e. Internet or print.
* YOU ARE PLAGIARIZING when you copy from someone else’s work.
* YOU ARE PLAGIARIZING when you use AI websites that write your assignments for you.

**Minimum consequences for cheating and/or plagiarizing are as follows:**

* **RECEIVE A ZERO** on the assignment or test/quiz, without a chance to redo or retake
* **REFERRAL** to the security office
* **PARENT CONTACT** by the teacher and/or security personnel
* **SATURDAY SCHOOL** assigned by the security office personnel
* **NOTATION** made in school discipline record

**Be Responsible. Make Wise Choices.**

If you are unsure, ask your teacher for guidance.