

Honors Chemistry 2018-2019

Dr. Vanderveen
Room 265

Chemistry is the study of the behaviors of substances and how they change.

Major topics include: atomic structure, the periodic table, problem solving methods, bonding, chemical reactions, gases, heat changes in chemical processes, equilibrium, kinetics, nuclear chemistry, acids and bases, and electrochemistry

Many course resources, including unit assignment sheets, are available in Google Classroom or at www.drvanderveen.com

What will I learn?

1 What happens in class?

Every minute of class time is valuable--be in class and be on time! The class is fast paced, involving a variety of learning strategies. You will relate your observations to models of matter at the particle level. You will learn to communicate your findings to other scientists as you develop your problem-solving skills. The mathematics of chemistry will be a major focus.

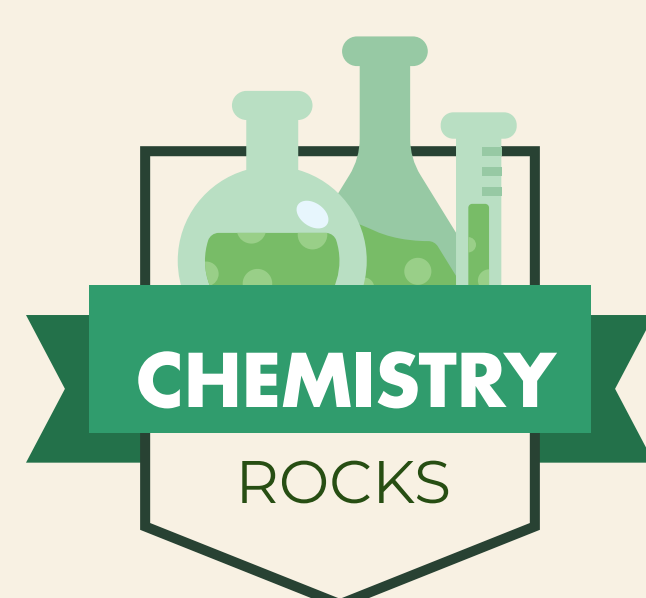
Homework will be assigned daily. Lab experiments will be part of every unit; both formal lab reports and minilab writeups will be part of the course. On average, expect 30-60 minutes of homework each day. You will keep a class portfolio. Unit assignment sheets will be posted online at www.drvanderveen.com

2 What should I bring to class?

pen or pencil
scientific (nonprogrammable) calculator
binder or notebook
bound composition book for lab data
assignments ready to be turned in (stapled!)



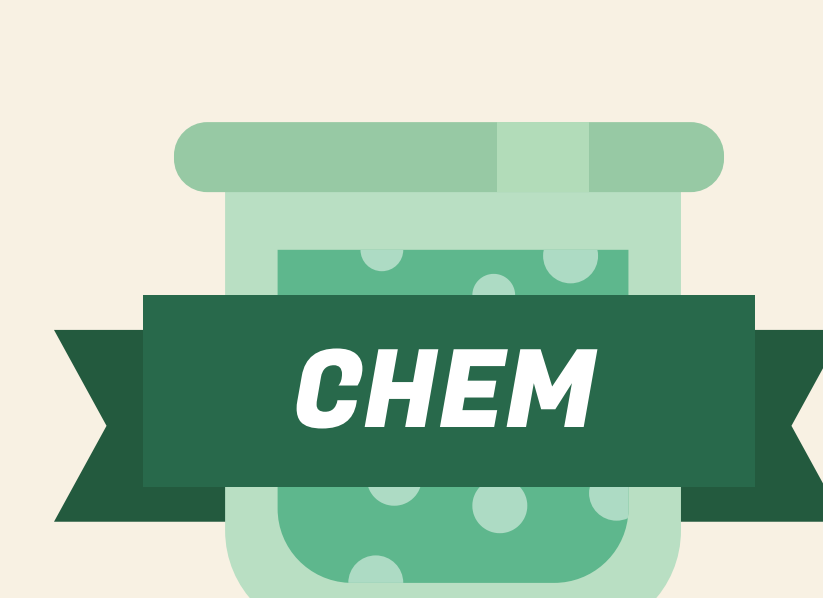
3 Grading and Homework



Homework is due at the beginning of class. Late HW will not be accepted if you are in school on the day it is due. Assignments not turned in promptly will result in a grade of zero



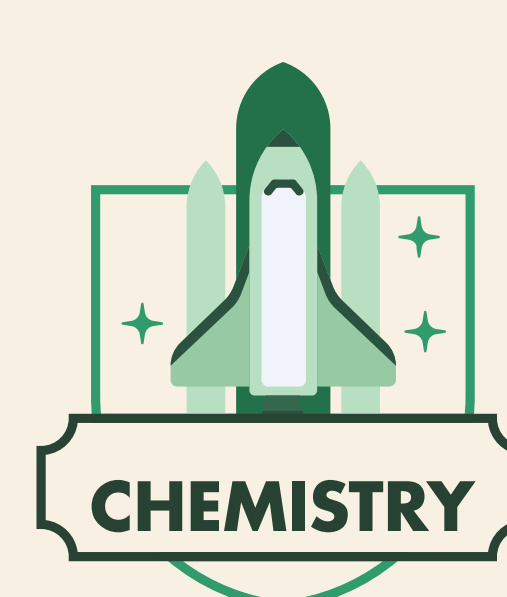
Absent? Make up any missed assignments right away--this is YOUR responsibility! If you miss class, stop by room 265 asap to pick up any handouts, etc.



Lab reports and projects will have a 50% penalty if received more than 1 day late and will not be accepted more than one day late.



Pop quizzes may be given at any time. Unit tests will be announced on the unit assignment sheets.



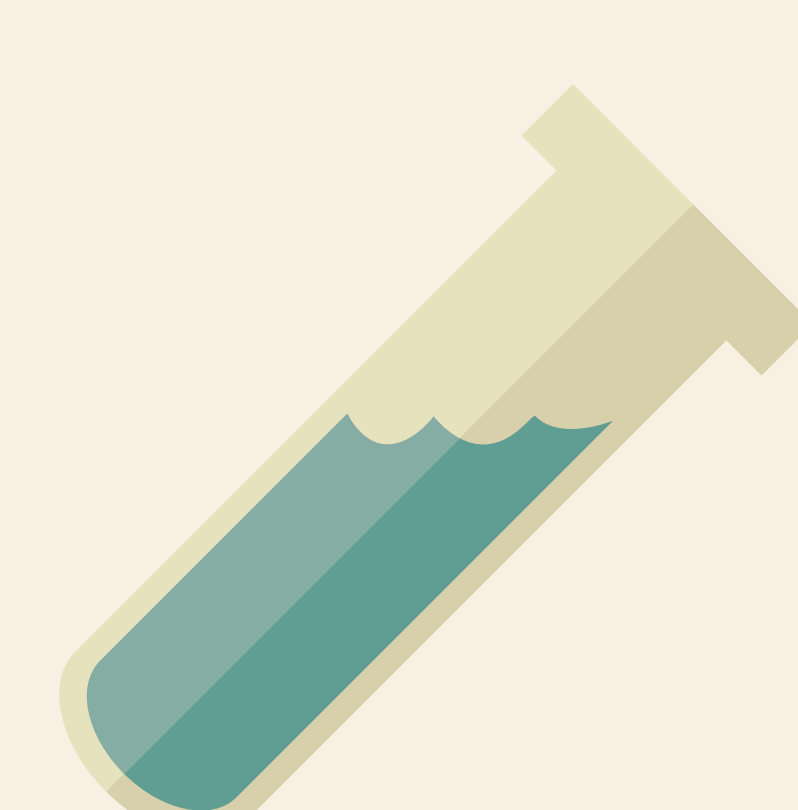
If extra time is requested on a test, the test must be completed on the original test date.

Nitty Gritty Details

If you are absent for a test, you are expected to make up the test the day you return. For absences of more than one day, you may have up to three days to complete the assessment. However, absence is not an excuse for missing a deadline--when in doubt, turn it in early. Refer to pp. 19-20 of the student handbook for the official policy on unauthorized absences.

Missed labs must be made up within one week of the original lab date.

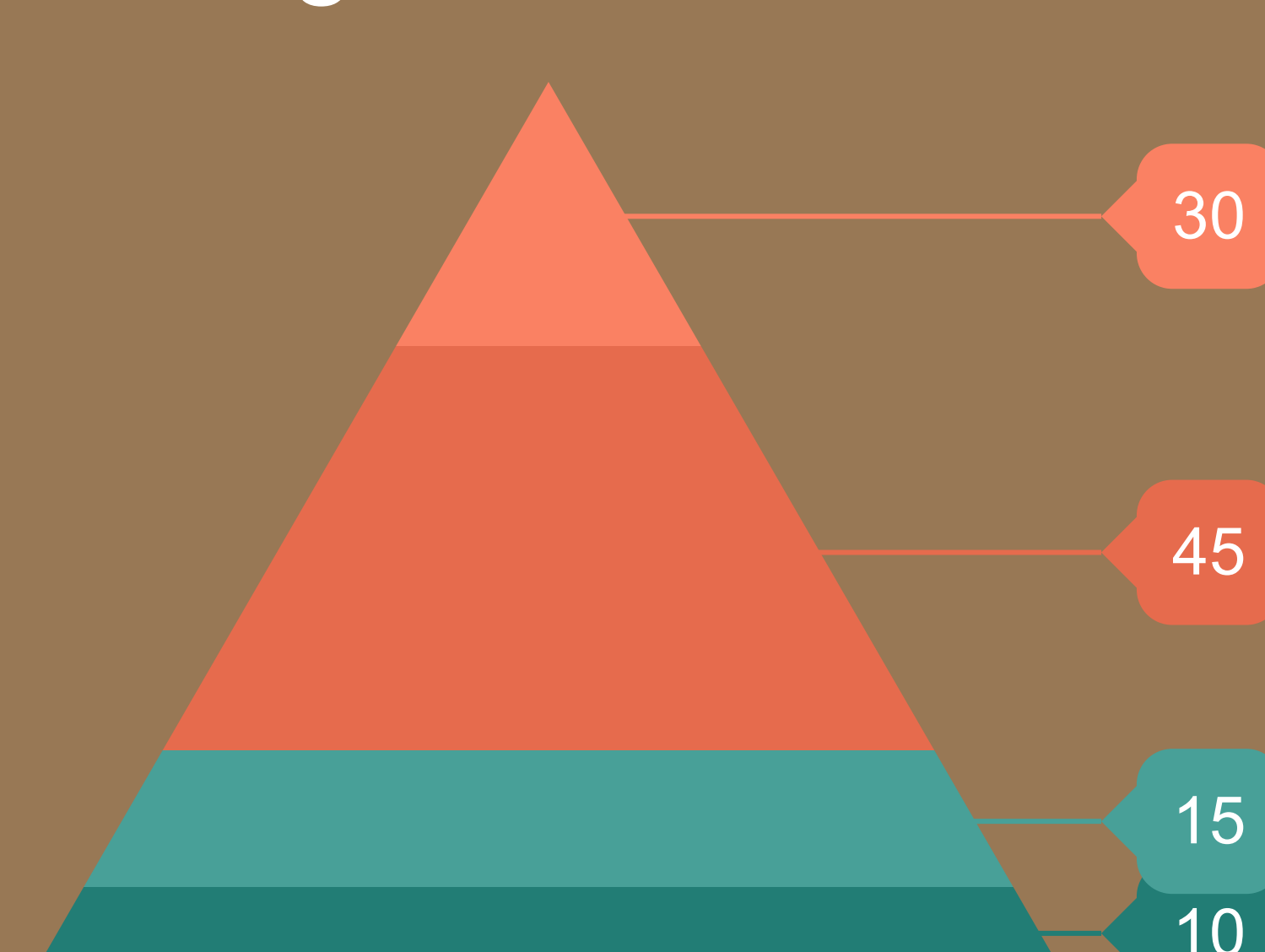
Assume, unless you are told otherwise, that work assigned outside of class, including homework and laboratory reports, is to be done independently. Cheating on tests will not be tolerated. Instances of academic dishonesty will be handled as outlined on pp. 27-28 of the student handbook. This includes assignment grades of zero for plagiarized work and parent notification.



4 How can I be successful?

Grading

- Daily Homework (10%)
- Quizzes (15%)
- Unit Tests (45%)
- Lab Reports (30%)



Keep up to date with assignments and studying.

Use a planner to keep track of your work.

Expect 45-60 minutes of homework daily (on average--often it will be less, but lab reports and studying for tests may require more time.

Use the available resources--textbook, website, classmates--to help understand the concepts.

Chemistry is cumulative, and quiz and test questions may cover previously studied topics, so review your notes frequently

5 Expectations

Tip #1

Be on time! Students who arrive late must bring a pass or detention will be assigned. Students are required to ask permission and sign out before leaving the room.

Tip #2

Be respectful of fellow classmates. Abusive language, in any form, will not be tolerated. Students are expected to work cooperatively with all classmates. Students are expected to participate in all class activities.

Tip #3

Do not use your cell phones or other devices during class. Macbooks are to be used when directed by the teacher. Graphing (programmable) calculators may not be used on tests, although they may be used at other times.

Tip #4

No food or beverages are allowed in class! Leave food items on the shelves in the hall

Tip #5

Lab safety rules must be followed at all times. Refer to the lab safety handout for details

Final Advice

Many students feel overwhelmed at first, because the material is abstract and unfamiliar. You will be challenged. Although some of the topics are difficult, the material can be mastered if you use active study strategies and work consistently. Remember that that making mistakes is part of the learning process. Remember: CHEM IS TRY!