TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY - CORPUS CHRISTI
Department of Physical & Environmental Sciences
General Chemistry I: CHEM 1311
(Sections 811, 812, 813, 814)
Fall 2012: MWF 1:00-1:50 am, EN-106

Instructor Information:
Instructor: Dr. Jim Silliman
Office: 120 Harte Research Institute
Telephone: 825-3718
E-mail: james.silliman@tamucc.edu
Office Hours: M 3:00-5:30, W 3:00-5:30 or by appointment

Course Description: General Chemistry is the foundation course in chemistry for all science majors. This course will provide a basic understanding of chemical concepts such as periodic properties, structure, bonding and stoichiometric relationships.

Student Learning Outcomes: The overall objective is for the student to master basic chemistry concepts such as:

- Nomenclature
- Periodic behavior of elements
- Balancing chemical equations
- Stoichiometric calculations

The secondary objectives of this course are to increase the student’s knowledge of involvement of chemistry in everyday life, prepare the students for organic and upper level chemistry courses, and involve the students in critical thinking exercises through course assignments.


Course Evaluation: The average of 4 exam grades (including the final), a shared assignment and quizzes will determine the lecture grade. There will be regular homework assignments during the semester. You must do the homework problems in order to perform well on quizzes and exams. Three 100-point exams, usually covering 2-3 chapters, are planned. The final exam on Wednesday, December 12 will be a comprehensive review and also include a section on previously untested material. Final letter grades for the lecture course will be assigned as follows: A: 90%, B: 80%, C: 70%, D: 60%, F: < 60%. At the
end of the semester, students’ percentages may be “curved” up depending on where natural breaks occur in the class data. Grades will never be “curved” down.

**Supplies:** Scientific Calculator (Required).

**Course Grade:**
- 3 Exams: 300
- Final Exam: 100
- Shared Assignment: 50
- Pop Quizzes: 50
- **Total Points:** 500

**Make-up Exams:** There will be no make-up exams for this class. If you miss one lecture exam, your final exam grade will be counted twice to replace the missed exam. This applies to ONE exam only. If you miss more than one, you will receive a zero for the additional missed exam(s). For those students who do not miss an exam, your final exam grade will be counted twice to replace your lowest exam grade (assuming that this improves your overall grade). Do not show up late to an exam, no student will be admitted to the exam after the first exam-taker has left.

**Make-up Quizzes:** There will be no make-up quizzes for this class. A total of eight quizzes will be given throughout the semester. Only seven quizzes are necessary to earn 50 points (7 pts/quiz). However, if you take all eight quizzes then your eighth quiz will be counted as bonus points added to your total points for the course.

**Tutoring and Test-Taking Strategies:** To be successful in this course, and most others, you must develop good note-taking skills, organization skills, study habits, and test-taking strategies from the very beginning. Your instructor, seminar leaders and TA’s are always available for help, but don’t wait until it’s too late! It is important that you are aware that the Center for Academic Student Achievement (CASA) in the Glasscock Student Success Center provides free tutoring, test-taking strategies, and extra help. **Take advantage of this service!** Should you have test anxiety, stress problems, or need help with study skills, the University Counseling Center (Driftwood 107: 825-2703) also provides a free service.

**Students with Disabilities:** Disability Services is located in Driftwood 101 (825-5816). Should you need special consideration for exams and/or class activities (special microphones, additional time for exams, enlarged exams, etc.), please contact this office. The university will provide assistance as needed, but you must contact Disability Services to make arrangements. The instructor cannot
make modifications without their involvement. Should you have mobility problems, please notify the instructor and TA so that they may seek assistance for you in the case of fire drills or emergencies.

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call or visit Disability Services.

If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance.

**Class Standards:** The student is expected to be on time and attend every class. If absent, it is the responsibility of the student to obtain missed information from a classmate. Missed information includes not only lecture notes, but also any possible information regarding syllabus changes. The student is expected to arrive on time prepared to take notes and work on in-class problems with pen or pencil, paper, calculator and colored markers/pencils.

**Before you enter the lecture hall turn OFF your cell phone! Beepers must also be turned off or put on silent mode.** Electronic interruptions will NOT be tolerated!

**Class Conduct:** All students are expected to follow proper classroom behavior and treat the other students and the instructor with respect. If a student’s actions or behavior is deemed disruptive to the class by the instructor, the student will be asked to leave the class for that day.

**Academic Integrity and Honesty:** All students are expected to conform to college-level standards of ethics, academic integrity, and academic honesty. By enrolling in this course, you agree to be bound by the Regulations and Procedures published in the TAMU-CC STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT. Group interactions, investigations, and studying are encouraged; however, duplicative work will be treated as cheating and will receive a grade of zero. Anything that is viewed as cheating on an exam will be given the most severe penalty possible, most likely an "F" for the course, but may include more severe punishments.

**Lecture Schedule:** The schedule below is a preliminary outline of the semester. It is your responsibility to keep up with changes to this schedule. The reading and problem assignments that will be assigned in class should be completed before the next class meeting. Failure to stay current on reading and problem assignments will greatly affect your ability to keep up during lecture and, therefore, will have an indirect affect on your grade in this course.
## Tentative Schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE (MWF)</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>CHAPTER</th>
<th>EXAM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WF: 8/22, 8/24</td>
<td>Keys to Chemistry</td>
<td>1.1, 1.3-1.6</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>8/27, 8/29, 8/31</td>
<td>Components of Mat.</td>
<td>2.1-2.6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WF: 9/05, 9/07</td>
<td>Stoichiometry (mole)</td>
<td>3.1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/10, 9/12, 9/14</td>
<td>Quantum T &amp; Atomic Str.</td>
<td>7/Exam</td>
<td>1: (Fri. 9/14)</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/17, 9/19, 9/21</td>
<td>Atomic Str./Electron Con.</td>
<td>7/8</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>10/01, 10/03, 10/05</td>
<td>Comps. of Mat./Ch. Bond.</td>
<td>2.8/9.5-9.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/08, 10/10, 10/12</td>
<td>Shapes of Molecules</td>
<td>10/Exam</td>
<td>2: (Fri. 10/12)</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/15, 10/17, 10/19</td>
<td>Shapes/ Cov. Bonding</td>
<td>10/11</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/22, 10/24, 10/26</td>
<td>Stoichiometry</td>
<td>3.1-3.5</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>10/29, 10/31, 11/02</td>
<td>Chemical Reactions</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/12, 11/14, 11/16</td>
<td>Gases</td>
<td>5/Exam</td>
<td>3: (Fri. 11/16)</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/19, 11/21, 11/23</td>
<td>Thermochemistry</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Thanksgiving (11/23)</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/26, 11/28, 11/30</td>
<td>Thermochemistry</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>M: 12/03 last class</td>
<td>Chemical Bonding</td>
<td>9.2 &amp; 9.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>W: 12/12</td>
<td>FINAL EXAM</td>
<td>1-11</td>
<td>11:00-1:30 pm</td>
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- **Exam Schedule:** 1 (Fri. 9/14/12), 2 (Fri. 10/12/12), 3 (Fri. 11/16/12).

- **Final Exam Schedule:** Wednesday, 12/12/12 from 11:00 am – 1:30 pm.
  The final is comprehensive (covers all chapters studied).

In choosing to take this course, you are agreeing to abide by the course rules, regulations, and standards. This includes agreeing to be respectful to your instructors and fellow students. Conduct that is disruptive or disrespectful will not be tolerated and is grounds for dismissal from the class. Should you have concerns or questions, you are to discuss them with the instructor as soon as possible. However, you are bound by these rules, regulations, and standards from the first day of the class throughout the duration of the course.

**Use of Electronic Devices during Exam:** Any use of an electronic device (palm pilot, Cell Phone, MP3 player, CD player, computer …) during an exam is strictly prohibited. Any use of such a device will be considered an attempt to cheat on the exam and will result in a 0 on the exam although more severe actions may be considered. Calculators may be allowed on exams when needed, but only for mathematical operations. The use of programmable calculators to store or retrieve information during an exam will be considered an attempt to cheat on the exam. Also, if a calculator is discovered to have saved programs or information that could be used as an unfair advantage on the exam, this will be considered an attempt to cheat on the exam. Programs or operators that aid in mathematical operations such as a quadratic equation calculator may be used.
**Assigned Homework:** The homework assignment for this class contains the minimum suggested amount of problems that you should work during the semester. The more problems you work, the more comfortable you will be with the subject….DO NOT GET BEHIND.

**Academic Advising:** The College of Science & Technology requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. The Academic Advisor will set up a degree plan, which must be signed by the student, a faculty mentor, and the department chair. The College’s Academic Advising Center is located in Driftwood 203E, and can be reached at 825-3466.

**Grade Appeal Process:** As stated in University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, and University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures. These documents are accessible through the University Rules Web site at [http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html](http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html). For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Office of Student Affairs.