Instructor Information:

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

Course Description: Introductory Chemistry is an applied chemistry course designed for non-science majors. This course will provide a basic understanding of chemical concepts such as periodic properties, structure and bonding and relate them to important concepts in society.

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

- Climate change
- Ozone hole formation
- Acid rain
- Plastics: production & waste

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

Textbook: Chemistry in Context, Applying Chemistry to Society, by Middlecamp, Keller, Anderson, Bentley, Cann & Ellis 2012, Seventh Ed. (Recommended)

Course Evaluation: The average of 4 exam grades (including the final), quizzes and a group project will determine the lecture grade. There will be regular homework assignments from each chapter during the semester. You must do the homework problems in order to perform well on exams and quizzes. Four 100-point exams, usually covering 2-3 chapters, are planned. The final exam is on Tuesday, December 17. Final letter grades for the lecture course will be assigned as follows: A: 90%, B: 80%, C: 70%, D: 60%, F: < 60%. When justified by the exam statistics and item analysis data, “curve” points may sometimes be added to every student’s final course average, “curving” grades up. Grades will never be “curved” down.

Supplies: Scientific Calculator (Recommended).
Course Grade:
4 Exams 400
Quizzes 50
Group Project 100
Total Points 550

Make-up Exams: There will be no make-up exams or quizzes 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.

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 in Room 216 of the library 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.

Disabilities Accommodations: 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 at (361) 825-5816 in Corpus Christi Hall 116. 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 at (361) 825-5816.

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!
Classroom/Professional Behavior: Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, as an academic community, requires that each individual respect the needs of others to study and learn in a peaceful atmosphere. Under Article III of the Student Code of Conduct, classroom behavior that interferes with either (a) the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or (b) the ability of other students to profit from the instructional program may be considered a breach of the peace and is subject to disciplinary sanction outlined in article VII of the Student Code of Conduct. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior may be instructed to leave the classroom. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including classrooms, electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc.

Academic Integrity/Plagiarism: University students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the highest standards of academic honesty. Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to penalty includes all forms of cheating, such as illicit possession of examinations or examination materials, falsification, forgery, complicity or plagiarism. (Plagiarism is the presentation of the work of another as one’s own work.) In this class, academic misconduct or complicity in an act of academic misconduct on an assignment or test will result in a zero for the assignment and possibly an F for the course grade.

Dropping a Class: I hope that you never find it necessary to drop this or any other class. However, events can sometimes occur that make dropping a course necessary or wise. Please consult with me before you decide to drop to be sure it is the best thing to do. Should dropping the course be the best course of action, you must initiate the process to drop the course by going to the Student Services Center and filling out a course drop form. Just stopping attendance and participation WILL NOT automatically result in your being dropped from the class. **Monday, December 1** is the last day to drop a class with an automatic grade of “W” this term.

Lecture Schedule: The schedule on the following page 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.

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 can be accessed at: [http://www.sci.tamucc.edu/advising/index.html](http://www.sci.tamucc.edu/advising/index.html)

**Grade Appeals:** As stated in University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures, 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 Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures. These documents are accessible through the University Rules website at [http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html](http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html), and the College of Science and Engineering Grade Appeals webpage ([http://sci.tamucc.edu/students/GradeAppeal.html](http://sci.tamucc.edu/students/GradeAppeal.html)). For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the chair or director of the appropriate department or school, the Office of the College of Science and Engineering Dean, or the Office of the Provost.
Statement of Academic Continuity: In the event of an unforeseen adverse event, such as a major hurricane and classes could not be held on the campus of Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi; this course would continue through the use of Blackboard and/or email. In addition, the syllabus and class activities may be modified to allow continuation of the course. Ideally, University facilities (i.e., emails, web sites, and Blackboard) will be operational within two days of the closing of the physical campus. However, students need to make certain that the course instructor has a primary and a secondary means of contacting each student.

Lecture Schedule: The schedule below is a preliminary outline of the semester. It is your responsibility to keep up with changes made to this schedule. Failure to stay current on reading and problem assignments will greatly affect your ability to keep up during lecture and, therefore, will have a damaging affect on your grade in this course.

Tentative Schedule:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>CHAPTER</th>
<th>EXAM</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R 8/28</td>
<td>The Air We Breathe</td>
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<td>T 9/02 &amp; R 9/04</td>
<td>The Air We Breathe</td>
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<td>Exam 1: Ch. 1&amp;2</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<td>The Water for Life</td>
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<td>Presentation of Group Projects</td>
<td>Gr. Projects</td>
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<td>T 11/25 &amp; Thanks</td>
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<td>The World of Polymers</td>
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<tr>
<td>T 12/09</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Final Exam</td>
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Exam Schedule:
Exam 1: Thursday, 9/18/14
Exam 2: Thursday, 10/16/14
Exam 3: Thursday, 11/13/14
Final Exam: Tuesday, 12/09/14 from 11:00am – 1:30pm