

College Prep (CP) Chemistry of the Earth Course Syllabus

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Course Description

Chemistry of the Earth is an NGSS aligned science course incorporating the core concepts of chemistry. The main focus of the class is matter, the changes in matter, and the role of energy plays in chemistry and science in general. This class also includes topics from Earth Science aligned with chemistry including environmental science.

Chemistry of the Earth is a mathematics-based course, with mathematical calculations being a part of every unit in the class. All math in this class are generally based on skills learned in your Integrated Math classes. All math skills needed for the class will be reviewed at the beginning and throughout the course. As with all mathematics-based courses you will be graded on both the answer and the work required to get the answer. In general not showing work will cause an entire problem to be marked wrong even if the answer is correct overall.

Chemistry of the Earth is also a laboratory based science (*counts as a lab science in the UC and Cal State requirements*). Chemistry is a hands-on science with labs being done approximately every 2 – 3 weeks based on laboratory facility availability and COVID-19 restrictions. All students are expected to participate in laboratory activities as part of the class. Any student who fails to follow laboratory safety or classroom rules will be sent to ALC (Alternative Learning Center) during laboratory periods, and will need to obtain data from other members of the class.

Class Supplies and Materials

Students in the class are **highly recommended** to have a scientific calculator or a phone that has a scientific calculator function for both class and at home assignments. Students will also be issued or have access to material from the newly adopted Chemistry Textbook for course work. Textbooks will rarely be used in the classroom, but will be referenced in electronic form on the class webpage. All laboratory equipment needed for labs will be provided by the teacher in class.

Grade Information

College Prep (CP) Chemistry is based on a standard categorized percent grading scale, with the grade percentages below:

Category	Weight (%)	Grade	Overall %
Assignments and Labs	40%	A	90.0% - 100%
Quizzes	10%	B	80.0% - 89.99%
Unit Tests and Final	50%	C	65.0% - 79.99%
		D	50.0% - 64.99%
		F	50.0% or Below

All grades are rounded up to the nearest letter grade for progress reports and final grade (*Example 69.60 rounds to a 70.00%*). Grades are not directly modified based on 504/IEP programs, but accommodations that assist with completing work/quizzes/tests are provided for all students.

Class Policies

Attendance, Seat Assignment and Tardy Policy

Attendance is taken in the first 5 minutes of class, based on school policies. Students will be marked absent or tardy based on the following policies:

Being marked absent:

- Student not in class for the entire period;
- Student arrives to class more than 30min late for any reason (*with or without pass*) unless told prior to class and with a pass;

Being marked tardy:

- Student arrives in the door of the class after the bell rings.
- Students entering the room right as the bell rings will not be marked late if they go right to their seats once entering the class;
- Student does not go to their seat as soon as they enter the class and the bell has rung;
- Student is sitting in another seat when the bell rings

Students who are tardy to class more than twice in a week will receive a detention to serve within the next two weeks. Students who are more than 10 min late to class, except in period 1, more than once per week will receive a referral to the office and a phone call home

Students are assigned seats based on their own original choice, but can be moved at any time due to class or individual needs. Students may be moved due to the actions of other students due to class balance. Students must remain in their assigned seats during the entire class period.

Restroom and Pass Policy

All passes throughout campus are handled through the smart pass digital pass system provided through the SMART PASS district system. All students should ask for a pass then create their own pass once permission is given. Students will not leave class without permission for any reason, including physical altercations outside of class. Any student who leaves will be subject to the discipline process up to a referral to the office.

Restroom and Pass Time Limits

- Restrooms
 - Students need to obtain green D building lanyard before leaving class.
 - 6 (*six*) Minutes Maximum, only to the D-Building Restroom
 - When D-Building Restroom is closed, students need to return to class, then will be given additional time to go to the C Building Restroom.
 - No restroom passes during the first 15 minutes of class
 - No restroom passes during the last 10 minutes of class
 - Only one student allowed to the restroom at a time
- Other classrooms
 - 10 (*ten*) Minutes Maximum, only after lesson is over
 - For other teacher classrooms, teacher may be contacted prior to pass to receive permission to go to their rooms
- Nurse, Office, and Councilors
 - Time is dependent on location, time, and purpose;
 - Students need to get a pass to go to the office or councilors unless a pass is directly or electronically sent to the teacher
 - Nurse passes are provided on request by student at any time during class. I will follow up with the nurses office to confirm student arrived.

Students who abuse the pass policy by exceeding pass time, not going to the pass location, or otherwise creates a school disruption will be penalized based on the progressive discipline process.

Food and Eating Policy

Food and drink are permitted during class based on the following policy

- During a normal class period
 - o Snacks and Drinks with Lid in Class.
 - o Clean up trash, put recyclables in class recycle bin
- During laboratory activities
 - o No Food or Drinks Allowed

Students may go get a drink from the water fountain outside the first 15 minutes, last 10 minute window during class.

Technology Acceptable Use Policy

Students use of technology is based responsible use policy and classroom limits. The following are examples are acceptable and non-acceptable technology uses:

Examples of acceptable technology use include:

- Answering or sending a single quick text message during class;
- Sending a single appropriate photo to another student in the same class;
- Listening to music while doing independent work (*including assessments*);
- Watching videos from class webpage (*solved answers, etc.*) during independent work periods;
- Charging devices in a school power source.

Examples of non-acceptable use include:

- Taking phone calls during class;
- Using headphones during instruction in class;
- Playing games at any time;
- Watching videos from YouTube, streaming platforms, or stored on device;
- Looking at, distributing, or otherwise sharing photos, videos, or other content with other students by directly showing them your device during class;
- Using a phone or other photo device to commit academic dishonesty;
- Looking at, viewing, or sharing any content that is not school appropriate.

Abusing the technology device policy will result in a **warning** on the first offense. If the behavior continues the student will be required to **place phone in the front of the class** for the remainder of the period. Any student who causes a class disruption or is defiant due to technology problems will be sent to the office without warning.

Teacher has final say about all technology use in the classroom and a student can have electronic devices taken away or restricted for any reason.

Technology Charging Policy

Students are expected to bring their technology devices charged each day and ready to go for the day. Students are also required to carry a chrome book charger with them during the day. The following is how charging is handled during class:

- Students need to plug chrome books into the wall outlets before class starts if the device is low on battery.
- Students may not sit by device when they are charging, or string cords over the floor to use device when it is charging.
- Students may not use chrome book to charge another electronic device, such as a phone or tablet. All small devices should be plugged in around the room to charge during the period.
- Students may not get up to check a device that is charging throughout the period until the lesson is over.
- I do not have chargers for students to use in class.

General Classroom Behavior

Students in class are expected to behave based on the classroom behavior policies below. Any student who does not follow the policy will be subject to consequences based on the discipline policy below.

Examples of unacceptable behaviors include (but are not limited to):

- Being out of assigned seat and talking to, communicating with, or otherwise disturbing other students in the class unless working with other students during independent work time;
- Excessively talking, communicating with, or otherwise disturbing other students in the class;
- Sleeping, leaning back in chairs/stools, turning around away from board, using headphones during instruction or otherwise any behavior that shows a lack of attention to classroom activities;
- Throwing objects (*including folded paper objects*), touching or moving other student property, or horseplay at any time.
- Not following safety and other instructions during laboratory activities.

The goals of both the technology acceptable use policies and classroom behavior rules is designed not to punish students but provide the best learning environment for all students.

Overall Progressive Discipline Policy

All student discipline will be handled based on the progressive discipline system below.

Instance	Penalty
1 st Incident	Warning
2 nd Incident	Detention
3 rd Incident	Office Referral + Two Periods ALC
Continued Incidents	Office Referral + Phone Call Home

Classwork, Assignments, and Laboratory Experiments

Students are expected to complete all assignments in the class setting. Each class students will be given time (*time permitting*) during class to work on assignment in their groups. Generally, assignments are due 2 days after assigned, the day after work is reviewed in class. Assignment due dates are always posted on the class website and google classroom.

Assignments will be completed based on either *google classroom* or on *pen and paper* depending on the assignment. Some assignments are time based and must be completed and turned in during the class period, while others will be due on google classroom by 4:00PM on the due date.

Any work not turned in by the due date listed on the assignment will be penalized based on the policy below

Turned In	Penalty
Late up to the end of unit	50% off assignment
After end of unit	No Credit Given

For students who are absent from class the due date will be adjusted based on the attendance policy above. Penalties apply based on the adjusted due date for those students. As stated above, no work is accepted after the day of the test.

Course Assessments

Three types of assessments are given to students each semester to allow students to demonstrate their knowledge of the course materials.

Quizzes are a short assessments that given between 12 and 15 times a semester. Quizzes are designed to give students a chance to show how they are doing with the current material in the class. The science department also gives short common quizzes. These short quizzes are not added to the quiz category.

Tests are large assessments that are given between 4 and 5 times a semester. Tests are the largest part of a student's grade in the class. Due to the challenge of tests, test retake opportunities are available for all students.

Final Exams are large multiple choice tests that are given at the end of each semester. These exams are based on the overall knowledge of class materials, and are worth approximately 1.5 to 2 times the points of a regular test.

Additional Assessment Policies

Students who are unexcused will not be given the opportunity to take the quiz later and receive a zero grade. Every 5th quiz in the quiz category is dropped from a student's grade in the class.

Tests allow for a retake during selected times outside of class. Any student may retake a test and earn 50% of the missed points back based on retake performance. Student may use original test and any notes or assignments to assist in completing the retake.

Students who miss a test due to an excused or unexcused absence will take test during the retake opportunities outside of class.

Academic Dishonesty Policy

Academic Dishonesty (*Cheating*) in this class is never acceptable behavior in class. Academic dishonesty includes any of the situations illustrated below:

- Directly copying all or part of another student's work on any assignment, laboratory activity, or assessment (*quiz or test*);
- Using a photo, video, copy, or other technology to directly copy work and turn in as your own;
- Obtaining a copy of an assessment early or during a test, whether blank or completed;
- Using unauthorized notes, or other resources on a test or quiz;
- Unauthorized use of AI to complete work as your own;
- Any of the above done to assist with another students academic dishonesty

Academic dishonesty is a very serious issue and will be handled based on district policy on a case-by-case basis. Any violation of the policy above will result in the actions below:

- Assignments and Labs: Student will receive a zero (*no credit*) on work
- Quizzes: Student will receive a zero (*no credit*) on quiz (*lowest quizzes are dropped per quiz policy*)
- Tests: Student will be allowed to retake test during test retakes based on the retake policy in the class, but will not have the opportunity to retake the test a second time. Further academic dishonesty on tests will result in a zero on the test.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is a tool that is used in many classrooms to assist the learning process. Any use of AI tools to complete any assignment, laboratory write up, quiz, test, or project in the class and pass it off as your own work will following the academic dishonesty policy.

The following policies for all classwork are designed to minimize both academic dishonesty through AI and traditional pathways.

- All problems done in class must show complete work using the worksheets provided during the class, in the format shown on the worksheet;
- All answers to short answer problems must come from the notes or presentation directly;
- Work must be completed in class when time is given to complete assignments in class.

Artificial Intelligence tools may be used to check student work for unauthorized use of AI. Any unauthorized AI use will be handled using the academic dishonesty policy.

Laboratory and Laboratory Behavior Policy

Laboratory is the most important aspect of Chemistry of the Earth but can also be the most dangerous. Students will perform laboratory safety training before the first lab, and must pass a safety test before doing lab. Laboratory is a zero tolerance activity, and all safety violations are considered serious in nature. Any student who engages in horseplay, or commits major safety violations during lab will be prohibited from doing laboratory activities for the remainder of the semester.

Students absent from class will be given a standard set of data for the lab and will complete the lab based on that data for the lab.

Grade Checks, Lunch and Tutoring Hours

For all grade checks please place the grade check form in the turn in basket at the front of the room and I will fill it out during the period. Grade checks are based on your current Aeries grade and will not be adjusted. You can also see weekly grade checks on the classroom website posted by ID number on Monday.

My official tutoring hours are everyday after school until 4:00PM as long as the student arrives by 3:45PM. Help is also available on my class website (<http://www.swagerscience.com>), including homework and laboratory report help videos. Students must come to tutoring with specific questions having tried the assignment with work shown to receive assistance. Statements such as "I don't get it!" without specific questions are not appropriate.

I am not available during lunch for any reason due to club and meetings. Any class business needs to be handled during class, before, or after school.

I look forward to a good year with everyone in this class. If you have any questions or concerns please let me know as soon as possible!