



Chemistry

2013-2014 Syllabus

Sharpstown High School

Mr. Ghosh

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Welcome to Chemistry! Throughout the year, we will discover what our world is made of, how it is put together, and what happens when different parts of our world interact with each other. Most importantly though, we will discover **WHY** these things happen.

No matter what your exposure to chemistry has been or how you have done in science classes in the past, I believe that all of you are capable of fully understanding the world around you. All you have to do is turn your **S.W.A.G.** on; **S.W.A.G.** is my expectation for students during instructional time. It means, **S**it up straight, **W**atch the teacher, **A**sk and answer questions, and **G**et it done. Working together as a team, I can guarantee your success throughout the duration of the school year.

- **Big Goal:** Chemistry is a mandated course for all college-bound Apollos. As your student's Chemistry teacher I have set goals for us to work towards to ensure that students develop the appropriate level of analytical and critical thinking skills to ensure that they are prepared for college or the career of their choice.

My first goal for my students is for them to **demonstrate 85% mastery of the Chemistry content.** In order for us to accomplish these goals we must work together and efficiently. In order for us to work together, I need all students in class every day. My second goal for this year is **100% attendance.** Chemistry is not a course in which reading a text book can reveal the full understanding. In order for us to achieve our goals, students must be present with their **S.W.A.G.** turned on **EVERYDAY.** My third goal for my students is to **score at least a 500 on the SAT II**

Chemistry by the end of the year. With recent changes to testing in Texas, chemistry no longer has a STAAR exam. In place of this, we will be preparing for the SAT II (subject test) in Chemistry, an approved college readiness exam.

- **Materials:** The following items you **must** have with you in class *every day* in order for us to meet our goals for the school year. If there any issues supplying the items under "You Provide", please see me as soon as possible, but no later than August 30th, 2013
 - I Provide:
 1. Daily handouts
 2. In-class folder
 3. Scientific Calculator (If you want one for home, we use the TI-30X IIS Calculator [\$15.00] in class)
 - You Provide:
 1. 2' Binder [For all Classes, given to you by SHS]
 2. Loose-Leaf Notebook Paper
 3. Writing Utensil (Blue, Black Ink Pen, or Pencil)
 4. A positive attitude and an inquisitive mind ☺
- **Assessments and Grading:** Students will have some sort of assessment daily, whether it is a discussion, exit ticket, homework, quiz, or unit exam. At the end of each semester, students will be given a comprehensive final exam that assesses the Chemistry TEKS, Texas Essential Knowledge of Skills, which will determine 25% of their final grade for the semester. The following breakdown determines how you earn your Chemistry grade for each of the 6 week grading periods.

Exams and Projects- 30%
Quizzes- 25%
Labs and Class work- 40%
Homework-5%

A	100-90
B	89-80
C	79-71
D	70
F	69-0

At the end of the semester, your three marking period grades (25% each) will be averaged with your semester exam (25%) to calculate your semester grade.

- **Grading Policy**
 - **Makeup Work:** Students that are absent must go to the makeup work bin before school, during lunch, or after school to receive make up work. You may also go during independent work time provided you have finished the required work for the day. **DO NOT DISRUPT CLASS** to try and obtain make up work. Makeup work needs to be turned in by the end of a grade submission period (3 week progress reports or 6 week report card). Makeup work not turned in by the end of a grade submission period will be given a grade of zero and will not be allowed to be made up.
 - **Retest:** You are responsible for studying for all exams; you should not wait until after a test or a quiz to request help. In order to retake an exam, student must attend at least one tutorial on Tuesday evening before taking the assessment over on their own time.
 - **Homework:** Homework will be placed in the homework bin on the pickup table at the beginning of each class period from the evening before. Homework turned in after the warm-up is **LATE!** Late homework will be placed in the special bin labeled "Late Work" on the front table. Late work will

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be stamped with the date turned in, will receive a 10% deduction for each day late, and may not be turned in more than 1 week after the original due date.

- **Classroom Expectations**

“You have to expect things of yourself before you can do them.” Michael Jordan

We adhere by the 5 P’s in this classroom. They are:

1. **Be prompt**

By the time the last bell rings, you should be in your seat **SILENTLY** working on the Do Now

2. **Be prepared**

The only way we can succeed in this class is through preparation. Come to class ready to work. This means you must bring your required materials and your full attention to class each day.

3. **Be productive**

Stay on task. We are busy in this class! I need each and every one of you to give 100% effort, 100% of the time

4. **Be polite**

We respect each other. There will be **NO BULLYING** in this room.

5. **Be positive**

We have the “I CAN” attitude in this room....probably because we are **AWESOME!!!** Be confident and take academic risks. This means that it’s ok to be wrong since it helps you to learn. We can learn as much, if not more, from our failures than our successes.

You can expect the following things from me:

1. **I will respect you** - Because I respect you and believe in your ability to succeed, I will challenge you and hold you to *high expectations*.
2. **I will be responsible for helping you to learn.** I will prepare engaging lessons, give meaningful feedback, and stay on task and on track, just as I expect you to. I will not waste your time.
3. **I will respond to you.** I will answer your questions the best I can, listen to you, and not give up on you if you get confused or frustrated. We are in this together.

- **Hand Signals**

We have several hand signals in this class to help figure out what we need:

Student Signals:

1. Hold pencil up in air → means that you need to sharpen your pencil
2. Crossed fingers → means you need to use the restroom
3. Raise hand → to ask an answer questions



Teacher signals:

1. Knocking motion → means YES
2. Sideways hand wave → means NO

• **Rewards**

Our class system will include rewards, both individual and whole class. Students will earn class dollars based on different actions they carry out. These can be related to attendance, performance on exit tickets/unit assessments, and coming in for tutorials. With these class dollars, students can purchase homework passes, small items, and extra credit.

Individual Rewards:

Income Opportunities	\$\$\$
Positive behavior	1 per instance
80% on exit ticket	5
90% on exit ticket	10
100% on exit ticket	15
Coming in for extra help (tutorial/Saturday school)	25
Perfect attendance for a marking period (6 weeks)	75
Marking period without pink slips	25
80% on unit assessment	15
90% on unit assessment	30
100% on unit assessment	50

Fines	\$\$\$
Pink slip given	10
Pink slip flipped	20
Academic Dishonesty	Loss of all class dollars

Privilege Purchase	\$\$\$
Homework Pass	50
Extra Credit	75 per 1% on Final Grade

Trade-in Value	\$\$\$
School Restroom Pass	30 per pass

Students can also earn points towards classwide rewards. These will be determined based on the student/teacher points. For each significantly positive behavior/action for students, they will earn a point. For each mishap, the teacher will earn a point. Rewards will be given based on the teacher-student

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differential at the end of each four days, with the reward being given on Friday. Additionally, greater rewards can be earned based on class performance on exit tickets and unit assessments.

Classwide Rewards:

End of Week:

Income Opportunities	Points Earned
100% attendance (for a day)	10
100% attendance (for a week)	60
80% class average on exit ticket	15
90% class average on exit ticket	25
100% class average on exit ticket	40

Reward	Teacher-Student Point Differential
Music during IP	40
5 minutes free time at End of Class	50
Ask Teacher Anything for 5 minutes	75

End of Unit:

Action	Reward
80% class average on unit assessment	No homework for a day
85% class average on unit assessment	No homework for a week
90% class average on unit assessment	Pizza Party
100% class average on unit assessment	SUPER REWARD!!!!

- **Classroom Policies**

The main policies and procedures for this class are shown in the table below:

Tardy Students	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All students must be ON TIME to class. 2. If you are late, you will be sent to Room 140 to get a PLASCO pass. 3. I will check the time and date on your PLASCO pass 4. All tardies will be marked unexcused unless you have an excused PLASCO pass 5. All PLASCO passes, excused or unexcused, must be given to Mr. Ghosh
Entering the classroom	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Shake the teacher's hand and greet him politely before entering the room. 2. Go to the pickup table. Grab all handouts and pick up 3. Retrieve your folder from your cubby. 4. Proceed to your assigned seat and sit down. 5. Have only your folder, pencil or black ink pen, and DO NOW activity on your desk. 6. Write your learning target prior to beginning the DO NOW 7. Begin work on your DO NOW activity. The DO NOW will always be projected onto the screen at the front of the room. You are to work on your DO NOW <u>silently</u> and <u>independently</u>. 8. This entire process should be SILENT. This is crucial to beginning our class with a focus on learning and achieving our mastery goals.
Speaking in Class	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. You must raise your hand to speak in the classroom. 2. If you have a question or want to answer a question, raise your hand. 3. When the teacher calls on you, you may ask or answer the question. There should be no speaking out of turn unless discussion has specifically been instructed.
Turning in Work	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All work should be turned into the basket on the front table. 2. Papers not turned into the basket will not be graded.
Obtaining Missed Work	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. If you miss a day, you need to go to the missed work crate. 2. Pick up the handouts for the day you missed. 3. You have one week to turn in late work.

Homework	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Place homework in appropriately labeled box on pickup table. If homework is not turned in by the end of the warm-up, it is LATE 2. Late homework should be placed in the basket on my desk. All late homework will be stamped with the date received, and will receive a 10% deduction per day late.
Paper headings	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. At the top of each assignment, students are required to put their name, date, and class period
Disposing of Trash	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. If you have trash, hold it up in the air. 2. If I acknowledge you, you can go dispose of your trash in the bin. 3. After disposing of trash, you will return quietly to your seat. 4. DO NOT THROW TRASH IN THE DRAINS!
Bathroom	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Students will receive 12 bathroom passes per semester (3 marking periods) to be used in any class. It is the student's responsibility to keep up with their bathroom passes. Replacement passes will not be issued for lost passes. 2. Students may not use the bathroom first 15 minutes and last 15 minutes of class. 3. If a student wants to use a bathroom pass, they should display the hand signal for restroom. If acknowledged by the teacher, the student will drop off the pass as they leave the room. They will also take the plunger as a restroom pass. Once the teacher has your bathroom pass, you will not get it back. 4. Bathroom trips should last NO LONGER than 5 minutes. 5. Use your passes wisely! You only get 12 per semester. 6. Unused bathroom passes can be redeemed for 30 class dollars at the end of the marking period for an extra percentage on their marking period average.
Sharpening Pencils	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pencils should be sharpened BEFORE the warm-up concludes. 2. If your pencil breaks during class, hold your pencil in the air. This signals that you need to sharpen your pencil. 3. Wait for the teacher to give you the signal to sharpen your pencil. At this point, the teacher will get you one of the hand-held pencil sharpeners that are kept by the blackboard. <u>The metal and electric pencil sharpeners may not be used during class (after the warm-up, except during IP).</u>
Unprepared for Class	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All students are expected to bring a pencil or blue or black ink pen to class each day. 2. Ask your neighbors and those around you for a pencil.

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. If nobody around you has a pencil, you may borrow one from me in exchange for your ID card.
Binders	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. If you show up without a binder, you will automatically be sent to the dean. 2. Students will also have a class binder with the following tabs: foundations, classwork, labs, graded work
Missing ID	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All students must carry their ID at all times. 2. If you do not have their IDs, you will be sent to the office to get a PLASCO pass. 3. I will check the time and date on your PLASCO pass 4. You will then keep the PLASCO pass with you to use as a temporary ID for the rest of the day.
Dismissal	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The bell does not release the class, the teacher does. 2. When the bell rings, you are expected to pack up, stand up, and clean your area. You need to push your lab stool in and stand behind it. 3. I will release you by lab group to exit the classroom. 4. Each student should leave their desk, taking all of their belongings with them. 5. On your way out the door, place your folder in your cubby so that you will have it for class the next day. DO NOT take your folder out of the classroom—you WILL NOT receive another one.

- **Electronic Devices:** My classroom is a learning environment. There is absolutely no reason to have out a cell phone, head phones, iPod, mp3 device, or anything else with an on/off switch. All electronic devices will be confiscated and turned into your assigned Dean's office on the first offense. Consider the syllabus your warning.
- **Food/ Drink:** Good science safety practice restricts the consumption of food and/or drink to outside the classroom. Students will be asked to dispose of all food/drink items upon entering the classroom.
- **Academic Dishonesty and Plagiarism:** Academic Dishonesty includes talking with classmates during independent work (daily work or tests), copying someone's answers on tests and assignments assigned as independent work, and/or plagiarism of someone else's work. Academic Dishonesty and Plagiarism **WILL NOT** be tolerated in the class at all. Any evidence of academic dishonesty or plagiarism will result in the immediate failure of the assignment and a referral to your Dean.

If you are caught with an assignment for another teacher's class during my instructional time, I will confiscate that assignment and turn it in to the appropriate teacher.

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- **Consequences:** When class procedures and policies are broken, I have the authority to assign consequences as seen fit per action. The consequences for this course are as follow:

1. Verbal Warning [Document stating that student has been warned placed in front of student]
2. Fill out reflection [Teacher turns warning document over indicating that student should fill out the document]
3. Call Parents & Teacher Detention
4. Office Referral

- **Academic Support:** My role as your teacher is to help you be successful in this course. Please remember that there is one of me, and I have over 150 students. Thus, it is imperative that if you are having trouble in my course you come to me when you need help. I am available every day before school, at lunch, and Monday and Wednesday afternoon for tutorials. You must secure a tutorial pass from me to be allowed to my classroom during lunch and to allow me time to prepare.

If I feel that your success in my class is in jeopardy, I reserve the right to assign you to lunch tutorials, after school tutorials, or Saturday Enrichment Academies to ensure your success.

I will also be available by email if you need support with class work outside of school until 9 PM. My personal email is the best way to reach me after school hours, niloy.ghosh518@gmail.com.

- **Chemistry Overview for the Year:** Material that will be covered through the duration of the year.
 - Matter and the Periodic Table
 - Atomic Chemistry and Nuclear Chemistry
 - Bonding and Chemical Reactions
 - Gases and Thermochemistry
 - Solutions

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Chemistry 2013-2014

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Welcome to the 2013-14 school year at Sharpstown High School! I am looking forward to a very successful year with your student. Please review the syllabus with your student. You and your child's signature below will be your child's first homework grade. If you have any questions or concerns about the syllabus or throughout the year, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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Thank You,
Mr. Niloy Ghosh

nghosh1@houstonisd.org

Student/Parent Contract

We have reviewed the Chemistry Syllabus for 2013 – 2014, and we are aware of all expectations in Mr. Ghosh's class.

Student Name: _____

Class Period: _____

Student Signature

Parent Signature

Date

Date

**Mr. Ghosh, High School Chemistry, Room 152.
Sharpstown High School
(DUE: Wednesday, August 28th, 2013)**

Thank you so much for taking 5 minutes out of your busy day to complete this survey. The more information I have, the better we can work together to help your student do well in my class. Please feel free to use the back side if you need more space for an answer.

Student Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Relationship to Student (i.e. parent, grandmother...): _____

E-mail Address: _____ Home Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

What is the best number and time to contact you about your student?

• Number: [] Home [] Work [] Cell Time: _____

1. With 2 weeks' notice, would you be interested in chaperoning a class field trip? [] Yes [] No

2. Would you be interested in being a guest speaker in our science classroom? [] Yes [] No
If so, what topic(s) would you like to speak about?

3. Do you know anyone that would be an interesting guest speaker in science class? [] Yes [] No
If so, what are their names, and how should I contact them?

4. What do you wish that teachers knew about your student that they might not know? Also, does your student have any special needs or conditions that make learning more difficult for them?

5. What motivates your student?

6. What are your goals for your student?

7. Is there anything else that I should know that would be helpful in making me the best teacher for your student (Example: Any medical, academic, or behavioral concerns of which I should be aware)?

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

TOGETHER WE CAN! WHATEVER IT TAKES! NO EXCUSES!