

# Chemistry Course Statement

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School Year 2009-2010

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**INTRODUCTION:** This is your plan for success in Chemistry. It describes what you can expect from this course and what is expected of you. This is a laboratory based course which includes scientific inquiry, discourse, and evaluation of evidence to develop conceptual graphical representations and mathematical models to meet State and district competencies. The concepts developed in this course are cumulative, and build upon each other through the year, for that reason it is extremely important for you to be in class every day.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** Chemistry is a conceptual introduction to the properties and characteristics of matter.

## MATERIALS REQUIRED

Text: Chemistry: Matter and Change.

Science Notebook (a consumable book used for chapter summary and review homework assignments)

Mastering the FCAT (consumable packet for FCAT review)

Notebook: Each student is required to have a three-ring binder to organize their Science material, handouts, and notes.

Calculator: Each student is required to purchase and bring daily a **scientific** calculator. You must have your own calculator.

Composition book : Each student must supply their own composition book, which will be kept in the classroom at all times.

Lab fee: All students are required to pay a \$4.00 lab fee. The lab fee will count as a grade for the first 9 weeks. **Failure to pay lab fee may result in a student being excluded from hands on lab participation..**

Each student is required to bring his/her notebook, lined paper, basic calculator, and a #2 pencil to class each day. Pens are not acceptable. Random supply checks will be held at any time and will count as a classwork grade

**TUTORING:** Tutoring **will not** be available on a regular basis after school. This will depend on the availability of teachers for tutoring sessions. Students are welcome to set specific appointments by request.

**ABSENCES:** One of the major factors that contributes to poor grades is student absence. Absences often result in missed activities or lessons that I do not have the time to go over again on an individual basis. Students are responsible for coming to me to get makeup work for the time they have missed immediately upon their return to class. Previously assigned work is due the day you return, in the homework box. This will be especially important now that we are on block schedule, and **each missed day will cover more than 2 regular days of class.**

**TARDIES:** One factor that contributes to poor grades is student tardies. We expect all students to be prompt to each class session. Any student that is not in his/her assigned seat when the last bell rings is considered tardy unless he/she has a school issued pass. Tardy students may not get credit for bell work (see bell work). Excessive tardiness may result in various penalties, including administrative detention or intervention. In the case of an assigned detention, the student must complete the required detention form. If the slip is not returned to teacher there is no confirmation. If the student does not fulfill his/her detention responsibility, a referral will be written and the student may be placed in CSI (In School Suspension).

## **CLASSROOM RULES - A STUDENT DOES NOT HAVE THE RIGHT TO DISRUPT THE LEARNING OF ANOTHER STUDENT. THEREFORE THE FOLLOWING PROCEDURES AND RULES ARE IN PLACE TO ENSURE A POSITIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT FOR YOUR STUDENT.**

1. Be in your assigned seat when tardy bell rings
  2. School dress code must be observed, including an ID, worn above the waist, and visible
  3. No food, gum, or beverages allowed in the room (except water)
  4. Bring required materials every day ( see materials, above)
  5. Pay lab fee on time
  6. Follow teacher directions and lab procedures
  7. No electronic devices, except calculators
  8. No use of profanity in the classroom or hallways.
  9. Respect yourself , your peers, and your teachers
  - 10.. Students may not enter or exit the classroom during the first 10 or last 10 minutes of class
- Violation of class rules will result in lower conduct grade, detention, or SCSI

## **GRADING SYSTEM**

**BRING YOUR STUDENT SUPPLIES TO CLASS:** A student that does not have materials to complete classroom assignments will be considered unprepared for class (see student supplies).

**COMPLETING ASSIGNMENTS / TURNING THEM IN ON TIME:** The single most important thing that you do is to complete assignments to the best of your ability and on time. Any assignment that is turned in after the assigned date will not be accepted. The only exception is if the student has an excused absence the day an assignment was to be turned in, that work will be accepted if the student has it with him/her when he/she returns to class (see absences).

**DOING YOUR OWN WORK:** You are asked to do your own work on class activities because that is the only way that we know whether or not you are learning. If you attempt to communicate in any way during a quiz or test, then you will receive a zero. If a student is observed using (copying) another's paper then both will earn zero credit

**OVERALL GRADE:** Your 9 weeks grade will be determined by averaging your **PERCENTAGE GRADES** for all your assignments (**NOT BY THE 4 POINT SCALE**). That means that there is an extremely large difference between a grade of "0" and a grade of "58". While these both have a letter grade of "F", the "58" will average almost the same as a "D".

**EXAMINATIONS:** Examinations will be given at the conclusion of each unit, on our assigned test days. (Wednesday or Thursday)

**Lab Safety Contract:** Students and parents must also complete the Flinn Scientific's Student Safety Contract which is to be read, filled out, and signed by your student and yourself then returned at the same time as the Plan Course Statement

**PROGRESS REPORTS:** Progress reports are sent home on a regular basis The student can earn bonus points by bringing the progress reports signed by a parent/guardian to class before or on the due date.

<u>Grade Categories:</u>		<u>ANNUAL GRADE BREAKDOWN:</u>	
Labs	2 grades	Each 9 weeks grade	20% (x 4)
Home Work / Classwork	1 grade	Midterm Exam	10%
Exams	4 grades	Final exam	10%
Bell work	1 grade		
Quizzes	2 grades		
Projects	weighting will vary		
<u>PERCENTAGE OF POINTS and LETTER GRADES</u>			
100 - 90	A	<b><u>Your 9 weeks averages will be calculated based on your percentage grade That means that there is difference between a low "C" (70%) and a high "C" (79%) This is especially important when a student scores below 60% and is Given an "F". Assignments that show effort will, therefore, receive more credit than assignments that were not turned in.</u></b>	
89 - 80	B		
79 - 70	C		
69 - 60	D		
59 or less	F		
Not turned in	Z "0" points		

*If you have any questions regarding this Course Statement please call Mr. Jopling at (305)-666-5871, or through email (email is best) at [gjopling@dadeschools.net](mailto:gjopling@dadeschools.net). If not, please complete the information below and have your student return it by **Friday August 29, 2005..** This will count as a homework assignment.*

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### **ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPT OF PLAN FOR SUCCESS**

**PERIOD** \_\_\_\_\_

We have received this plan for success in Chemistry

Print student name here (last, first) \_\_\_\_\_

Sign student Name here (first, last) \_\_\_\_\_

Print your Parent's/Guardian's name here (first, last) \_\_\_\_\_

Your Parent/Guardian signs here (first, last) \_\_\_\_\_

Print your Instructor's name here (last only) \_\_\_\_\_

