CHEM 1211  
Principles of Chemistry  
Spring 2020  

Instructor  
Ms. Holly Wallace  
Office: TLC-2118  
E-mail: hollyw@westga.edu  
Phone:678-839-6028  

Workshop questions?  
See your WS leader first, then Dusty Otwell  
Office: TLC- 2133  
E-mail: dotwell@westga.edu  
Phone: 678-839-6550  

Office Hours:  
Monday – NO OFFICE HOURS  
Tuesday – 11 AM – 1 PM  
Wednesday – 11 AM – 5 PM  
Thursday – 11 AM – 1 PM  
Friday – NO OFFICE HOURS  

Lecture : Tuesday, Thursday  9:30 – 10:45 am  

Purpose  
This is the first course in a two-semester sequence covering the fundamental principles and 
applications of chemistry for science majors. The course satisfies Core Requirement in Area D. 
Topics to be covered include components of matter, chemical reactions and stoichiometry, gas 
laws, thermochemistry, quantum chemistry, atomic structure and properties, molecular models and 
chemical bonding. This course promotes active student learning as well as logical thinking and 
analytical reasoning in problem solving. Chemistry encompasses a wide array of phenomena such 
as photosynthesis, combustion of fuels, and biochemical processes. Understanding concepts of 
structure, energetics, kinetics and equilibria that govern the behavior of matter are a central theme 
in Chemistry 1211 and 1212.  

Required Materials  

● Access to CourseDen is required to access class notes  
● A NON-GROUPING calculator is required for the final exam.  
● Mastering Chemistry assigned on-line Homework Problems  

Learning Outcomes  
Each student will acquire a basic understanding of the following topics: the history of chemistry 
and the state of where we are today, mass and mole relations, measurements and units, solutions, 
stoichiometry, reactions in aqueous solution, atomic structure and thermodynamics.  

The course has two components 1) “lecture”, and 2) workshop. As a result, I expect that you 
will spend more time outside of class working on course material than in lecture. This will be 
necessary to perform well in the class. Again, group study is a method we want to promote strongly 
in helping you succeed in this course. Peer to peer teaching and learning is a very effective way to 
study the material.
We hope that this course will ultimately result in an enjoyable learning experience.

Course Policies and Guidelines

- The official communication method between the instructor and students will be through email.
- ALL of the course materials including the syllabus, class-notes, and sample exam questions are available through CourseDen as they become available.
- The class meets on Tuesday, Thursday 9:30 – 10:45 AM.
  - Please come to class on time and do not leave early.
- You are expected to behave professionally in this course, which means considering the effect that your behavior will have on other people involved in the course.
- Turn off cellular phones, and do not use them in class.
- Distracting use of personal laptops is not permitted in the classroom.
- Eating or drinking in the classroom/laboratory will not be allowed.
- No make up quizzes or exams will be given. In case of an illness or a dire emergency, the instructor must be contacted prior to the examination in-person, via phone or email. Accommodations for missed exams, quizzes and assignments will be handled between the student and the instructor and depending on the severity of the situation.
- Strategies to succeed in this class
  - Come to class, quit unnecessary socializing (text messaging, talking) during class.
  - Read the textbook, take good notes, participate in productive collaboration with peers, review notes, practice problems and actively participate in workshop.
  - Visit me during my posted office hours or find a FREE tutor or supplemental instructor at the Excel Center.

E-mail Policy

The primary means of communication with the instructor will be via e-mail. Since email has proliferated, and now constitutes the bulk of extra-classroom conversation between student and instructor, it must be subject to normal rules of formality. Therefore, all e-mail communication will follow the guidelines enumerated here. E-mail should be composed in formal, professional language, and with attention to the propriety accorded to the position of the writer, and the addressee. E-mails that do not meet these standards will not be returned by the instructor. E-mail should not ask questions whose answers are contained in the course syllabus. Such e-mail will not be returned by the instructor. Students should avoid asking questions in e-mail that should be raised either in class, or in individual consultation with the instructor. These include questions of an excessively conceptual nature, and questions that expect an unreasonable amount from the instructor. A good rule of thumb: if your question cannot be answered in two sentences or less, or if it is a question that you should solve on your own through the course of your reading, then it is not appropriate for e-mail.

Homework (Mastering Chemistry)

My initial advice for excelling in this course is: take your homework seriously. The best way to get good at something (e.g. problem solving) is by practice. Homework assignments will be given online at masteringchemistry.com and counted towards your homework grade.

Examinations

There will be four examinations and a comprehensive final examination during the semester. Each examination will be closed book and without notes. You will need to bring a calculator to the tests. If necessary, I will provide the scantron sheets, periodic charts and conversion tables during the
tests. In order to get full credit on tests, quizzes and other assignments, you must **SHOW ALL WORK AND CALCULATIONS**. Points will be deducted if you have correct responses with incomplete calculations and/or explanations.

The standardized examination from the American Chemical Society will serve as the final examination. It consists of multiple-choice questions, and is prepared by the American Chemical Society. **Use of graphing calculators will NOT be allowed for the ACS exam.** Currently, regular scientific calculators are acceptable. **DO NOT MARK IN THE EXAM BOOK!** If there is a conflict with the final exam time, you must provide me with written authorization from the Dean of Arts & Sciences to move your final exam time.

The dates for the in class exams are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exam</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exam 1</td>
<td>1/28/20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam 2</td>
<td>2/25/20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam 3</td>
<td>3/26/20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam 4</td>
<td>4/21/20</td>
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</table>

**Comprehensive Final Exam:** 4/30/20 (8:00 - 10:00 am)

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**Workshop Chemistry**

In addition to regularly scheduled lecture (and laboratory sessions), you will be **REQUIRED** to attend a 1.5 hour long workshop to discuss chemistry problems and improve your understanding of the material. Your workshop will be led by an upper-level student leader who will facilitate activities that provide practice and build confidence in your ability to solve chemistry problems. Workbooks for the workshop will be distributed in class and must be brought to workshops every week.

**Workshop Grades**

You are not judged on actual right answers, but the effort you put into the workshop. The workshop portion of your grade, will be based on: 1) Attendance. Do not arrive late; do not leave early. 2) Participation in group efforts to solve problems. 3) Preparation. Practice problems assigned from the textbook by your instructor should have been solved, or at least attempted, before the relevant workshop. Workshop leaders will randomly choose problems from the list to assign points for this part of the workshop. 4) Attitude.

**Academic Honesty Policy**

We take academic honesty very seriously. Plagiarism of any sort will not be tolerated. Plagiarism is the use of someone else’s ideas or words as your own. This definition includes copying another student’s exam or assignment, as well as using material from a book or Internet site without acknowledging the source. For example, copying results from an online example paper is wrong. Using literature values taken from Wikipedia for comparison to your results is wrong if you do not indicate where those values came from. Failing to **put your partners’ names on your report** is wrong. “Working together” on a take home quiz or test: wrong. If you plagiarize any part of an assignment for this course, you will receive a zero for the entire assignment, and disciplinary action will be taken. If an individual is caught cheating a second time during the semester, he/she will receive a grade of F for the entire course.
**Semester Grades**

All exam, quiz and lab activity grades will be based on your ability to DEMONSTRATE full understanding of the material. Full credit will only be given if you SHOW ALL OF YOUR WORK, not just for obtaining the correct answer. I will configure Courseden to show your current grade standing based on material completed.

Your grade will be calculated based on the following components:

- In-class exams (4) = 60%
- Final Exam = 15%
- Workshop = 10%
- On-line Homework = 10%
- Quizzes/Attendance= 5%

Final letter grades will be assigned based on the following performance brackets:

- [90% and up = A]  
- [80 – 89% = B]  
- [70 – 79% = C]  
- [60 – 69% = D]  
- [< 60% = F]

**University Policies**

Please refer to the following for academic support, the honor code, email policy, credit hour policy and HB 280 (Campus Carry Policy):

https://www.westga.edu/administration/vpaa/common-language-course-syllabi.php

**How to Study Chemistry**

You should start by familiarizing yourself with the textbook. Read the author’s preface to see what is included in the text and what other resources are available for help. Look at the appendices to see what information is contained there for later use.

You should prepare for lecture by skimming ahead in your textbook. You may not understand all of the material, but it will familiarize you with new terms and equations and by doing this lecture will become much more beneficial.

As soon as possible after lecture you should review your lecture notes and the textbook. Then begin working the in-chapter problems. Only continue when you completely understand the problems. Chemistry builds on itself and if you do not understand a topic now it will only make later topics more difficult. In addition, this chemistry course sets the foundation for later chemistry courses, if you do not learn the material now it will make later courses much more difficult.

When you have completed the chapter proceed to work the end of chapter problems immediately. These problems are an excellent barometer to determine whether you understand the material. Treat the on-line homework problems as if they are test questions and do not look elsewhere for help. If you can work the problems without looking anywhere else for help then you know and understand the material. If you cannot do the problem without help then you need to stop doing homework and reread the pertinent area of the textbook and lecture notes until you are ready to try the problem again. DO NOT look in the solutions manual until you have finished the problem. You will learn more by sticking with a problem to finally solve it then by looking in the solutions manual. Chemistry is best learned by doing, so work as many problems as you can.
You must keep up. This course will move quickly and if you are not studying daily then you will find it to be quite difficult. While it will be necessary to memorize some information like equations and formulas, memorization without understanding is useless. You must learn how and when to use equations to be successful. Also, because of the volume of information you will see you will not find success by “cramming.” If you do not start studying until the week of the test, then you will not be successful. You may also find study groups to be helpful. When you teach and explain topics to your fellow students you will find that you learn those topics even better. Finally, do not hesitate to use office hours. These hours are set aside for you, so take full advantage.

**Tentative Schedule for the Course**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/7/20 and 1/9/20</td>
<td>Syllabus &amp; Ch. E</td>
<td>Ch. E/Ch.1</td>
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<td>1/14/20 and 1/16/20</td>
<td>Ch. 1</td>
<td>Ch. 1/Ch.2</td>
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<td><strong>Class Cancelled</strong></td>
<td>Ch.2</td>
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<td>1/28/20 and 1/30/20</td>
<td><strong>Test 1</strong></td>
<td>Ch. 3</td>
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<td><strong>Test 2</strong></td>
<td>Ch. 6</td>
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<td>Ch.7</td>
<td>Ch. 7</td>
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<td>Ch.8</td>
<td>Ch.8</td>
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<td><strong>SPRING BREAK</strong></td>
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<td>3/24/20 and 3/26/20</td>
<td>Ch.8</td>
<td><strong>Test 3</strong></td>
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<td>3/31/20 and 4/2/20</td>
<td>Ch.10</td>
<td>Ch.10</td>
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<td>4/7/20 and 4/9/20</td>
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<td>Ch.9</td>
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<td>4/14/20 and 4/16/20</td>
<td>Ch.9</td>
<td>Ch.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/21/20 and 4/23/20</td>
<td><strong>TEST 4</strong></td>
<td><strong>Review</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>4/28/20 and 4/30/20</td>
<td>Reading Day (<strong>STUDY!</strong>)</td>
<td>Final Exam April 30th 8:00-10:00 am</td>
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**Note:** Last Day to Withdraw with a grade of W is before Midnight of Feb. 28 (Friday)