



Course Syllabus: General Chemistry Lecture
College of Science and Mathematics
CHEM 1143
Fall 2025

Contact Information

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Course Description

CHEM 1143 is a first semester chemistry course to satisfy lab science requirements for BS majors and provide entry level information for students wishing to pursue other chemistry courses. The content covers basic chemistry concepts, calculations, and background for future courses such as organic, analytical, environmental, and biochemistry. This is a survey course. Highlights and introductions to various specific and applied concepts will be covered in several areas relating to different aspects chemistry.

Objectives include: to understand scientific thought and process as it relates to chemistry and problem solving; to analyze numbers and data to interpret outcomes of experimentation; to comprehend how atoms/matter form and change through a chemical process; and to understand stoichiometry, thermodynamics, periodic trends, substance formation/bonding, and laws and theories pertaining to matter.

Textbook & Instructional Materials

- [Chemistry 2e - OpenStax](#) (FREE ONLINE)
- ACS General Chemistry Study Guide (see secretary or order online \$30)
- Owl v2 (Cengage Publishing): mandatory homework platform. Free trial period to get started but must be bought to continue. ***This is required and counts for a grade.*** I place an internal link in D2L – use that format to log in so that you do not need a passkey.

Study Hours and Tutoring Assistance

Professors have office hours for the purpose of asking questions, working problems, and clarifying information – use this! Chemistry also offers free tutoring for lab and lecture classes. Person tutors can be obtained but for an hourly rate (please see office assistant for the current list). Study sessions for each test will be scheduled if time allows. PLEASE COME! SI hours and TASP hours will be posted in D2L

SI instruction is required for class. SI sessions, tutoring from TASP or private tutors all count. A minimum of 10 for the semester.

Student Handbook

Refer to: [Student Handbook](#)

Academic Misconduct Policy & Procedures

Although there will be opportunities for group work, assignments unless otherwise noted are to be done individually. Similar answers on homework, or quizzes will have one written warning. Zeros will be given to every assignment afterwards where cheating is done. Blatant and obvious copying (exact odd/wrong answers, cut and paste) will receive an automatic zero the first and every time. Scores obtained by cheating will NOT be ones that are dropped in any category. Phones out/sounding during exam, cheating aids, or staring eyes during exams will result in a zero on the exam.

Academic Dishonesty: Cheating, collusion, and plagiarism (the act of using source material of other persons, either published or unpublished, without following the accepted techniques of crediting, or the submission for credit of work, not the individual to whom credit is given). Additional guidelines on procedures in these matters may be found in the Office of Student Conduct.

[Office of Student Conduct](#)

Moffett Library

Moffett Library provides resources and services to support student's studies and assignments, including books, peer-reviewed journals, databases, and multimedia materials accessible both on campus and remotely. The library offers media equipment checkout, reservable study rooms, and research assistance from librarians to help students effectively find, evaluate, and use information. Get started on this [Moffett Library webpage](#) to explore these resources and learn how to best utilize the library.

Grading

Table 1: Grade distribution

Assignments	Percent
Quizzes	7
Owl v2 Homework	7
SI/tutoring sessions (10 total)	7
Exams (4)	60
Final Exam	19
(extra credit opportunity)	
Total Percent	100

Table 2: Total points for final grade.

Grade	Percent score
A	89
B	79
C	69
D	59
F	Less than 59

Homework

Chapter homework will be in D2L (Owl, Cengage), but all grades will be viewed in D2L. After more difficult chapters, some group work packets will be given. Much of the work will be done in class for those that work diligently, but enough time will not be given to complete packets. You must work with your group in some fashion to finish the assignment by the due date. **MAKE SURE TO CHECK YOUR COMPUTER'S OPERATING SYSTEMS TO ENSURE YOUR COMPUTER IS COMPATIBLE AND UP TO DATE.*

Quizzes

Quizzes will be given after each/most chapter. These are not "pop" quizzes. All quizzes will be given in class to simulate a test environment and to test true knowledge and not research skills. Some quizzes will be group assignments and/or take-home types.

Exams

Exams will be given after every 2 – 3 chapters. You will need a nonprogrammable calculator OR one that can be cleared before each exam. No Inspires will be allowed for exams.

Final Exam

The exam is a comprehensive exam, nationally standardized exam through our accreditation agency, American Chemical Society. There are old, released copies to view online and in our library at the reserve desk. There is a book to check out in our office to help study, or you may buy your own – see our office secretary. *THE BOOK IS VERY HELPFUL, BUY IT NOW SO THAT YOU CAN STUDY AND MAKE NOTES IN EACH CHAPTER.*

Extra Credit

There are occasions when extra credit may be offered for attendance to professional seminars sponsored by our department.

Late Work/Make-up Work

Quizzes can be made up until they are recorded in D2L, this is approximately 4 days – one week after quiz is given. It must be a school sponsored absence or an illness that results in a university excuse. *There will be no extensions on the online homework assignments.* Exams can only be made up with a university excuse or equivalent for up to 48 hours. Any extenuating circumstances must be discussed within 48 hours of the exam date. Make sure to ask about make up material if you miss class for any reason.

Important Dates

Last day for term schedule changes: Check the date on the [Academic Calendar](#).
Deadline to file for graduation: Check the date on the [Academic Calendar](#).
Last Day to drop with a grade of "W:" Check the date on the [Academic Calendar](#).
Refer to: [Drops, Withdrawals & Void](#)

Desire-to-Learn (D2L)

Extensive use of the MSU D2L program is a part of this course. Each student is expected to be familiar with this program as it provides a primary source of communication regarding assignments, examination materials, and general course information. You can log into [D2L](#) through the MSU Homepage. If you experience difficulties, please contact the technicians listed for the program or contact your instructor.

Attendance

Students are expected to attend all meetings of the classes in which they are enrolled. Although in general students are graded on intellectual effort and performance rather than attendance, absences will lower the student's grade because vital information is not gained. Excessive, non-university excused absences or missing TWO exams or THREE quizzes will result in an instructor drop. Missing this amount of material results in the inability to pass the course. The instructor must give the student a verbal or written warning prior to being dropped from the class.

Students are expected to attend all meetings of the classes in which they are enrolled. Although in general students are graded on intellectual effort and performance rather than attendance, absences may lower the student's grade where class attendance and class participation are deemed essential by the faculty member. In those classes where attendance is considered as part of the grade, the instructor should so inform students of the specifics in writing at the beginning of the semester in a syllabus or separate attendance policy statement. An instructor who has an attendance policy must keep records daily. The instructor must give the student a verbal or written warning before being dropped from the class. Instructor's records will stand as evidence of absences. A student with excessive absences may be dropped from a course by the instructor. Any individual faculty member or college has the authority to establish an attendance policy, providing the policy is in accordance with the General University Policies.

Computer Requirements – Ai Policy

Ai is a tool to help organize notes, for study help, and general questions. It is not to be used to create any working or written assignments that require your original work. Over 25% Ai assignments will be a zero with no "redo"

Online Computer Requirements

Taking an online class requires you to have access to a computer (with Internet access) to complete and upload your assignments. It is your responsibility to have (or have access to) a working computer in this class. ****Assignments and tests are due by the due date, and personal computer technical difficulties will not be considered a reason for the instructor to allow students extra time to submit assignments, tests, or discussion postings.*** Computers are available on campus in various areas of the buildings as well as the Academic Success Center. ****Your computer being down is not an excuse for missing a deadline!!*** There are many places to access your class! Our online classes can be accessed from any computer in the world that is connected to the internet. Contact your instructor immediately upon having computer trouble. If you have technical difficulties in the course, there is also a student helpdesk available to you. The college cannot work directly on student computers due to both liability and resource limitations however they are able to help you get connected to our online services. For help, log into [D2L](#).

Instructor Class Policies

Attendance is needed to obtain material and for those on financial aid. Owl v2 must be purchased and worked for homework grade. Students must schedule exams prior to leaving on university/military/other trips/absences. Absence due to illness requires a notification by email as soon as able so that missed work can be scheduled. Emails require your name and lecture/lab you are in for accurate information. This must be through university emails/D2L.

Change of Schedule

A student dropping a course (but not withdrawing from the University) within the first 12 class days of a regular semester or the first four class days of a summer semester is eligible for a 100% refund of applicable tuition and fees. Dates are published in the Schedule of Classes each semester.

Refund and Repayment Policy

A student who withdraws or is administratively withdrawn from Northwestern State University (NSU) may be eligible to receive a refund for all or a portion of the tuition, fees, and room/board charges that were paid to NSU for the semester. However, if the student received financial aid (federal/state/institutional grants, loans, and/or scholarships), all or a portion of the refund may be returned to the financial aid programs. As described below, two formulas (federal and state) exist in determining the amount of the refund. (Examples of each refund calculation will be made available upon request).

Services for Students with Disabilities

In accordance with Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Northwestern State University endeavors to make reasonable accommodations to ensure equal opportunity for qualified persons with disabilities to participate in all educational, social, and recreational programs and activities. After notification of acceptance, students requiring accommodations should make an application for such assistance through Disability Support Services, located in the Clark Student Center, Room 168, (940) 397-4140. Current documentation of a disability will be required in order to provide appropriate services, and each request will be individually reviewed. For more details, please go to [Disability Support Services](#).

College Policies

Campus Carry Rules/Policies

Refer to: [Campus Carry Rules and Policies](#)

Smoking/Tobacco Policy

College policy strictly prohibits the use of tobacco products in any building owned or operated by WATC. Adult students may smoke only in the outside designated smoking areas at each location.

Alcohol and Drug Policy

To comply with the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 and subsequent amendments, students and employees of Northwestern State are informed that strictly enforced policies are in place which prohibit the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of any illicit drugs, including alcohol, on university property or as part of any university-sponsored activity. Students and employees are also subject to all applicable legal sanctions under local, state, and federal law for any offenses involving illicit drugs on University property or at University-sponsored activities.

Campus Carry

Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes as prohibited. The new Constitutional Carry law does not change this process. Concealed carry still requires a License-to-carry permit, and openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit [Campus Carry](#).

Active Shooter

The safety and security of our campus is the responsibility of everyone in our community. Each of us has an obligation to be prepared to appropriately respond to threats to our campus, such as an active aggressor. Please review the information provided by the MSU Police Department regarding the options and strategies we can all use to stay safe during difficult situations. For more information, visit [MSUReady – Active Shooter](#). Students are encouraged to watch the video entitled “Run. Hide. Fight.” which may be electronically accessed via the University police department’s webpage: ["Run. Hide. Fight."](#)

Grade Appeal Process

Update as needed. Students who wish to appeal a grade should consult the Midwestern State University [MSU Catalog](#)

***Notice:** Changes in the course syllabus, procedure, assignments, and schedule may be made at the discretion of the instructor.

Tentative Course Schedule:

It is possible that exam dates change due to the overall class progress. You will be given a one week notice when the date is set, if not what is schedule below.

Week or Module	Activities/Assignments/Exams	Due Date
Aug 26 – Sep 16	Chapters 1 - 3	
	EXAM 1	Sept 23
Sept 18 – Oct 9	Chapters 4, 9	
	EXAM 2	Oct 14
Oct 16 – Nov 6	Chapters 5, 6	
	EXAM 3	Nov 11
Nov 13 - 25	Chapters 7, 8	
	LAST DATE TO DROP	Nov 24
	EXAM 4	Dec 2
Dec 4	Final Review	
	ACS FINAL EXAM	Dec 9 at 8 AM