



Course Syllabus: course name

College of MCOSME

CHEM 1243

Spring 2026

Contact Information

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Office: Bolin Hall 303B

Office hours: M/W/F 10 AM – noon; *others by appointment or M-R after 2PM*

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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.

Inclement Weather Procedure

In the event of a snow day, online assignments will keep the same date. Assignments due in person will be collected the next day we meet. If it is an exam/quiz day, expect the exam/quiz the next day we meet. Watch for D2L announcements to cover any other differences that may occur.

Required Textbook & Instructional Materials

1. [Chemistry 2e - OpenStax](#) (FREE ONLINE, hardcopy NOT required)
2. **ACS General Chemistry Study** Guide (see secretary or order online)
3. **Cengage Owl v 2** (ACCESS through D2I, buy through Cengage website)

Study Hours and Tutoring Assistance

Professors have office hours for the purpose of asking questions, working problems, and clarifying information – use this!

10 supplemental instruction (SI) hours **are required**. This can be SI hours, TASP tutoring hours, personal tutor (approved through me), or other campus tutoring. SI and TASP require a QR code login in to be recorded. Exam study sessions will count as well, but you must sign in for each one. Other options require you to keep a personal log with date, length of time, and signature of the tutor.

Student Handbook

Refer to: [Student Handbook](#)

Academic Misconduct Policy & Procedures

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's 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

Course Grade - List all graded assignments with their point value and or percentage of total grade. Letter Grade Scale indicate the overall points or % to letter grade scale for example 1270 to 1137 = A.

Table 1: Points allocated to each assignment

Assignments	Percent
Quizzes/assignments (12)	7
Owl v 2 (online chapter work: 7)	7
SI sessions (10)	7
Exams (4)	60
Final Exam	19
One exam extra credit opportunity	5 pts

Table 2: Total points for final grade.

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

Homework

Chapter homework link will be in D2L (Owl, Cengage). After more difficult chapters, some group work packets or individual assignments 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 FOR D2L and HOMEWORK PLATFORMS/LMS.*

Quizzes

Quizzes will be given after each 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.

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. Each exam counts equally, 15% of the exam category.

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 or service projects sponsored by our department. One project for the semester may be used for 5 pts on one exam.

Late Work/Make Up Work

Quizzes can be made up until they are recorded in D2L, this is approximately 4 business days – one week after quiz is given. *There will be no extensions on the Owl online homework assignments.* **Exams** can only be made up with a university excuse or equivalent and within 48 hours unless extenuating circumstances. Make sure to ask about make up material if you miss class for any reason as soon as possible. Do not wait until you return if at all possible.

Core Assessments

CHEM 1243 is a core course. As such, the following assessments are required:

Table 3: Core assessment requirements.

COURSE	Objective: assignment
CHEM 1243	Critical Thinking: POGIL Kinetics assignment Using kinetics definitions, concepts, and equations to solve applied problems and formulate conclusions
CHEM 1243	Quantitative Analysis: ACS final for quantitative analysis (rubric for old Weave reporting can be used- is in the exam folder)

Important Dates

- Last day for term schedule changes: Check date on [Academic Calendar](#).
- Deadline to file for graduation: Check date on [Academic Calendar](#).

- Last Day to drop with a grade of "W:"Check date on [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

Missing class means missing notes and material. This is an in-person class, so slides/notes will not be placed online, although some examples and additional copies of assignments may be placed online for ease or clarity. 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 on a daily basis. The instructor must give the student a verbal or written warning prior to 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.

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 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 which 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 application for such assistance through Disability Support Services, located in the Student Wellness Center, (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 Midwestern State are informed that strictly enforced policies are in place which prohibits 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 has 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 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

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.

Course Schedule:

Table 4: Schedule.

Quizzes are given after each chapter. Owl v 2 due dates are on the required Cengage platform and due after the completion of each chapter.

Week	Activities/Assignments/Exams	Due Date
Jan 20 – Feb 10	Chapter 10: Intermolecular forces, Liquids and Solids Chapter 11: Solutions and Colloids	Jan 29: POGIL IF assignment
Feb 12	EXAM 1	Feb 12
Feb 18 – Mar 4	Chapters 12 Kinetics Chapter 13 Equilibrium Concepts	Feb 26: POGIL Kinetics assignment (core assessment: critical thinking)
Mar 6	EXAM 2	Mar 6
Mar 9 - 16	Spring Break	NA
Mar 18 – Apr 3	Chapter 14: Acid Base Equilibria Chapter 15: Equilibria Applications	Mar 31: POGIL acid base assignment
Apr 2	Break	NA
Apr 7	Exam 3	Apr 7
Apr 9 – May 1	Chapter 16: Thermodynamics Chapter 17: Electrochemistry Chapter 21.1-21.4: Nuclear Chemistry	Apr 23: POGIL Thermo assignment
Apr 27	Last day to drop with W	By 5 PM
May 5	EXAM 4	May 5
May 7	Final REVIEW	During class
May 12	FINAL	8:00 AM Tuesday

General Chemistry II topics

The following table gives the main topics covered in chapters stated above.

Table 5: Chapter Summary.

Chapter	Topics
10	Intermolecular Forces, Phase Diagram, Heating Curve Properties of Solids, Polymers
11	Properties of Solutions, Concentration Units, Colligative Properties
12	Kinetics, Rate Law k
13	Equilibrium, K
14	Acid Base Concepts, Strong and Weak Acids and Bases
15	Heterogeneous Equilibria, Buffers, Titrations
16	Thermodynamics, 3 Laws, Free Energy
17	Electrochemistry
21	Selected Topics in Nuclear Chemistry: Definitions, Isotopes, Transmutations, Applications