

Chemistry 1500
CRN

Youngstown State University
Department of Chemistry
Chemistry in Modern Living Laboratory 8/8/2013

Coordinator:

Dr Russell Moser, Ward Beecher Science Hall, Room 6006, Phone: 330-941-7100.

Office Hours: See my web site home page. At other times, I am easy to reach by phone or e-mail address on my web site. E-mail is the quickest and easiest way to reach me. You may discuss any issue from problems you can't solve, to needed encouragement, to requesting an appointment. I check my e-mail several times per day and will respond to you within hours.

1500 Web Location: www.as.yzu.edu/~rmoser or keywords "russell moser".

Course Description:

This course is an introduction for students who might have no previous experience with chemistry. The approach for the course will be to investigate the connections that exist between chemistry and the concerns of society. An outcome of the course will be to leave us with the information and understanding to consider the risks and benefits of possible solutions to some societal-technological issues. Another outcome will be that we will learn some basic chemistry that will give an additional dimension to our views of the world.

This course is a General Education Laboratory course in the Natural Sciences Domain and emphasizes

1. general education goals
2. acquiring, Processing, and presenting quantitative and qualitative information using the most appropriate technologies, including computers,
3. reasoning critically, justifying conclusions and applying those conclusions to one's life and society,
4. understanding the scientific method, forming and testing hypotheses as well as evaluating results,
5. realizing the evolving relationships among science, technology, and society,
6. understanding and appreciating the natural environment and the processes that shape it.

Required Supplies:

Lab: Steehler, Gail. (2009). *Laboratory Manual for Chemistry in Context. Applying Chemistry to Society.* (7th ed.) McGraw Hill: Boston.

Laboratory coats and goggles

Internet Access to my web site and other materials

Calculator: Your calculator should handle scientific notation.

Grading: Each report will be graded will be worth 100 points.

90-100%	A
80-89%	B
70-79%	C
60-69%	D
<60%	F

Your final grade will be based on your laboratory reports, midterm and final exam. Your instructor may use your class participation in addition.

Extra credits will be offered to those who complete the "Student Feedback" questionnaire in the last week of the course. The midterm and final exams will be taken from material covered in class and will be worth 100 points each. The midterm will cover material from the first half of the course and the final will cover material from the second half of the course.

Normalization: Each year there are between 3 to 5 sections of 1500 lab with 1 to 3 different laboratory instructors. A laboratory instructor may have up to three sections. Although every effort is made to make the grading consistent though all sections and all instructors, the department is not always successful. To assume that all students are treated equally, normalization is used. First we want to be generous to our students, we agree to make 85% the average grade in all laboratory sections. Second, each laboratory instructor will combine all their sections together and then normalize to 85%.

Examples of Normalization:

1. Instructor 1 has one section and after all grades have been received, the average for this section is 80%. For each student in this section, 5 points will be added to their average grade (ie. Student 1 average grade is 75, the final grade will be 80%).
2. Instructor 2 has one section and after all grades have been received, the average for this section is 90%. For each student in this section, 5 points will be subtracted from their average grade (ie. Student 1 average grade is 75, the final grade will be 70%).
3. Instructor 3 has three sections and after all grades have been received, all three sections are lumped together and will be treated as one group of students. The average for the whole group of students is 80%. For each student in all three

sections, 5 points will be added to their average grade (ie. Student 1 average grade is 75, the final grade will be 80%).

4. Instructor 4 has three sections and after all grades have been received, all three sections will be lumped together and will be treated as one group of students. The average for the whole group of students is 90%. For each student in all three sections, 5 points will be subtracted from their average grade (ie. Student 1 average grade is 75, the final grade will be 70%).

Makeup Tests will not be given. Tests are scheduled during regular class time and, as such, you are expected to be present. In the event of an unexpected absence for various reasons, you must contact me within 24 hours of the exam and also provide written documentation supporting your absence within one week. If your excuse is acceptable to me, accommodations will be made. Your attendance (see attendance below) and class participation will be used in this evaluation process.

Homework:

Your home work will involve reading and understanding your next laboratory experiment. You will be expected to come to class prepared to start your experiment.

Class Attendance and Participation:

Class attendance is required. Three unexcused absences will result in a failing grade for the course. Unavoidable, extenuating circumstances (such as severe illness and emergencies) and pre-arranged absences for YSU activities are the only circumstances that will be considered as an excused absence and the student will be given assignments make-up assignments on a case-by-case basis as determined by the instructor. You must notify the instructor (by email, phone, or note) as soon as possible and documentation to verify the circumstances will be required.

Safety glasses are required for all laboratory work. Your instructor will deduct 5 points on each laboratory report that you are caught not wearing your glasses.

Disability Statement:

YSU complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Anyone requiring special adaptations or accommodations should inform the instructor as soon as possible. In accordance with University procedures, if you have a documented disability and require accommodations to obtain equal access in this course; please contact me or your lab instructor, privately to discuss your specific needs. You must be registered with the Center for Student progress Disability Services, located at 275 Fifth Avenue, and provide a letter of accommodation to verify your eligibility. You can reach CSP Disability Services at 330-941-1372.