

# How to Succeed in Chemistry

## General:

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- Come to class on time and ready to work.
- Be prepared for class. This means having your homework ready before the bell rings, having a calculator and all other needed materials.
- Participate during class. When examples are given in class, try them and ask questions if you do not understand. It is okay to get the wrong answer to a question. Circle the questions that you get wrong during lecture and do these problems again later. This will show you where you may have problems on the homework and midterms.
- Copy down everything that I write on the board so that you can review it later. It is also helpful to review your class notes when you do your homework so that you make sure you understand what you wrote down.
- Come and see me before you get too far behind.
- Chemistry, like a language, requires you to memorize certain material. Make flash cards to help you memorize equations, definitions, chemical symbols, names, unit conversions, etc.
- Be prepared to spend time struggling though problems. Chemistry is difficult and the only way to be successful is to work through problems and concepts. Keep in mind that even more time might be needed for the harder concepts.

## Homework:

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- Do all of the assigned homework. If you are having trouble on a concept, do similar problems from the book that are on your homework.
- The more problems that you work, the better you will understand chemistry.
- Do your homework in a quiet place.
- Rework the problems from lecture notes, especially the ones that you circle during lecture.

## Tests/Quizzes:

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- Start studying a week before the exam, not just the night before.
- Find a good study partner or a group of people to study with.
- Rework all of your homework problems.
- Review lecture notes, paying special attention to problems that were given in class.
- Come and see me if you are having a hard time with a concepts so that I can clear them up before the test.
- When taking the test, do “easy” stuff first, therefore if you run out of time you will get points for the topics that you understand the best.
- Make sure that you have the right number or significant figures and units for each answer.
- If you have more additional time go back and check your answers.