General Chemistry I (Chemistry 101), Section E  
Fall 2002  
11:20-12:10 on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday  
Wynn 111

This course introduces the basic concepts of chemistry, develops problems solving skills, and fosters the student’s ability to “think like a scientist”. It is the first half of a two-semester sequence.

Contact information

instructor: Ephraim Woods III  
office hours: 1:20 – 3:20 Monday and Friday, 11:20 – 12:20 Thursday (Wynn 304) (also by appointment on Tuesday or Thursday mornings)  
phone: x7237  
email: ewoods@mail.colgate.edu  
blackboard: bb5.colgate.edu (or follow Chem101E link at classes.colgate.edu)  
tutoring: Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday, 7-9 p.m. in Wynn 116  
laboratory coordinator: Julie Chanatry, x7231, Wynn B37, jchanatry@mail.colgate.edu

Stuff you need

- textbook -- Chemistry, by Steve Zumdahl (5th edition)  
- lab manual -- A bright yellow, plastic-wrapped booklet  
- lab notebook -- duplicating notebook with alternating white/blue sheets  
- safety glasses -- either stand-alone or to fit over your spectacles  
- molecular model kit -- if you plan to take Organic Chemistry, get the HGS kit  
- calculator -- a scientific calculator that cannot store text

Tentative Exam/Quiz Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Material</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quiz 1</td>
<td>Sept. 13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam 1</td>
<td>Sept. 25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quiz 2</td>
<td>Oct. 7</td>
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<td>Exam 2</td>
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<td>Quiz 3</td>
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<td>Quiz 4</td>
<td>Nov. 25</td>
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<td>Exam 4</td>
<td>Dec. 13</td>
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Final Exam:  
A comprehensive, two-hour final exam will be scheduled during Finals Period (Dec. 16-20). This is a common exam for all Chem 101 sections, written by all of the instructors.

Laboratory

Website: http://classes.colgate.edu/jchanatry/chem101

The laboratory section is arranged independently, and you may have a different instructor. A separate sheet lists the laboratory experiments. Your attendance is required, and you should attend lab only at the assigned time. In the case of an unavoidable (and sanctioned) scheduling conflict, you may attend another lab section, but you must obtain permission from the laboratory coordinator (she prefers Guru), Dr. Julie Chanatry well in advance. Likewise, contact Dr. Chanatry if you are ill or otherwise unable to attend lab. Excused absences from lab should be made up within one week. In general, laboratory reports are due at the beginning of the next lab period (with some adjustments to accommodate holidays). The due dates are listed in the laboratory manual. Lab reports submitted late will not be accepted.
Grading

Your grade for the course will depend on the quality of your work on exams, on quizzes, in the laboratory, and on the final exam. The weight given to each of these components is:

- **Hour exams**: 300 points (~43%)  
  The best three of four 100-point exams
- **Quizzes**: 100 points (~14%)  
  The sum of four 25-point quizzes
- **Laboratory**: 150 points (~21.5%)  
  Lab grading will be discussed in lab
- **Final**: 150 points (~21.5%)  
  sometime between Dec. 16 and 20

700 total points

The quizzes are not intended to be challenging – they are just an indicator (to you and to me) of how well you’re keeping up. They will occupy only the last 10-15 minutes of class. The exams, on the other hand, will be challenging. They will be a mixture of problems that I expect you to solve, and ones that I hope you can solve (and maybe one that I’d just like to see if you can solve). It pays to be both well-prepared and alert – all-nighters often preclude the latter.

Your laboratory instructor assigns your grade for the laboratory section, and it will be based on the quality of your reports and laboratory performance. You can get more detailed criteria from your instructor. **Failure to successfully complete the laboratory sections will result in a failing grade for the entire course**, independent of your performance on exams and quizzes.

There is neither a fixed, absolute scale (ie. 90-100 is an A), nor a quota system (ie. the top 10 get A’s) for assigning grades. This policy works to your benefit! However, as a result, it is impossible to assign a letter grade to an individual exam. Allowing you to drop an exam score is intended to help you if, for whatever reason, you miss an exam either in body or in mind. There will be no make-up exams.

Homework problems will be assigned each lecture, but they will not be collected or graded. Attendance will not be an explicit part of your grade, though it is one of the criteria that can help a borderline grade (along with positive contributions to class, improvement throughout the semester, or a superb final exam). Poor attendance usually results in poor exam scores, so don’t miss class.

Tips and Comments

- Do all the homework problems as they are assigned. They will help you master the concepts and problem solving skills needed to succeed in this course. Try very hard to solve the problems before seeking help from any source.
- Read the assigned material before class. Keeping up with both the reading and the problems is the most effective strategy.
- Prepare for the laboratory assignments by reading about the experiment in the manual. Doing this will greatly streamline your performance in lab.
- Take advantage of my office hours rather than relying solely on friends and tutors.
- Email is good for administrative business, but bad for technical help. Please refrain from asking technical questions via email. Pay me a visit instead.
- If you find that you’ve covered some of this material in the past, try to penetrate it more deeply this time around. There are layers of understanding in chemistry – don’t be satisfied with a superficial one. You’ll need a solid understanding to perform well on the exams.
- I want this to be your favorite course.