

About CP Chemistry

Mr. Carman

<http://www.kentschools.net/ccarman/>

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About Chemistry

Chemistry is the study of matter and the changes it undergoes. Since everything is composed of matter and undergoes change, just about anything and everything can be examined using chemistry. In this class, we will attempt to develop an understanding of chemistry that will allow you to appreciate what's happening in everyday occurrences such as eating, manufacturing, and combustion.

My Philosophy of Education

I believe that it is possible for every person to learn from any situation. Students are not clean slates upon which a teacher writes information; instead, the teacher helps students build knowledge that is unique to each of them. Because each student is unique, he or she will take something unique away from this class. It is my sincere hope that every student has a positive experience in Chemistry.

Minimum Requirements

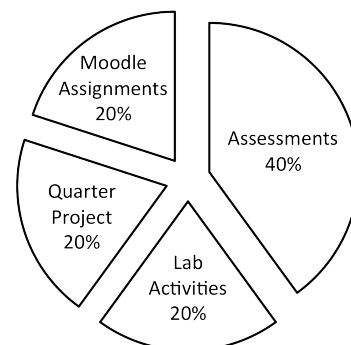
The minimum requirements for CP Chemistry are as follows:

- **Successful completion of Algebra I with a 'C' or better**
- Successful completion of two credits of science (Physical Science and Biology)
- Passage of the Science Ohio Graduation Test (OGT) (strongly recommended)

If you do not meet these minimum requirements, based on previous student performance, you will probably not be able to pass Chemistry; you should either come see me or see your counselor as soon as possible.

Grading

Quarter grading is done based on four categories: Assessments (40%), Lab Activities (20%), Quarter Project (20%), and bi-weekly Moodle Assignments (20%). The number of points earned in a category will be totaled and then weighted by the above percentages each nine weeks. It is possible for every student who meets the minimum requirements and works hard enough to earn an **A** in this course.



Assignments

Posting

- Assignments will be posted daily on the dry erase board in Room 207, on RHS Moodle (<http://www.kentschools.net/moodle/>), and on my blog (<http://www.kentschools.net/ccarman/>), which will also contain SmartBoard notes and worksheet keys. Use these resources to keep up with assignments if you are absent so you don't fall behind!

Assignments

- Textbook assignments and worksheets will be reviewed in class but will not be collected or scored. Just like in college, completing all of these assignments is **highly recommended** and will have a significant effect on your understanding of chemistry and your overall grade.
- If you are absent when an assignment is due, you will be expected to turn in that assignment upon returning. **If you are unexcused absent the day it is due, late penalties will apply.**
- Assignments turned in by the end of the school day they are due are considered "on time".

Assessments (40%)

- Multiple-choice assessments will be given in class approximately every two weeks to measure your progress in CP Chemistry. Students earning an 80% or lower will be required to take a second assessment in class over the same topics; the highest grade between the two is kept. Students may elect to take a third assessment on their own time if they would like to earn a higher grade.
- **If you are absent the day of an assessment, you will make it up on your first day back – no exceptions!**

Lab Activities (20%)

- All work done during laboratory experiments will be completed using the CP Chemistry Lab Activities packet that will be provided to you at the beginning of the year. **This lab activities packet is your responsibility – if you lose it, you must print your own replacement using a copy from my blog.**
- Lab write-ups must be completed and submitted online through RHS Moodle within two days of completing the lab activity. Any labs missed due to absence must be made up within one week; some labs must be made up by watching a video of the lab activity on my blog.
- Write-ups for stations labs will not be collected.
- Seven lab activities will be completed each quarter at the rate of about one per week.

Quarter Projects (20%)

- A quarter project will be due at the end of each quarter and will be based on that quarter's main topic.
- Each project will be done individually and may consist of a several components, including an oral presentation and online sharing.
- We will do research and prepare our projects during several visits to the computer lab during the month before the project is due.

Moodle Assignments (20%)

- An extended writing assignment on a topic related to chemistry will be due **every other Friday** and will be worth 10 points each (4% of your quarter grade).
- All Moodle assignments will be turned in electronically via RHS Moodle at <http://www.kentschools.net/moodle/>.

Late Assignments, Extra Credit and Grades

- **In order to provide an experience similar to college, late assignments will be severely penalized at a rate of 25% of the total possible points per day.** Accordingly, you should make an effort to have your work completed at the beginning of the class when they are due.
- Because this class is largely based on assessments and lab work, extra credit will not be given. **Do not ask for extra credit** – you will be able to do well in this class if you complete all of the assignments, take good notes, pay attention, and study.
- **Please feel free to come see me or email me if you have any questions about your grades.**

Notebooks

I **strongly recommended** that you keep a notebook for this class. It should be kept in a three-ring binder and should contain the following items in separate sections, arranged in chronological order:

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Class handouts | 4. Homework/Worksheets |
| 2. Your class notes | 5. Lab activities packet |
| 3. Assessments | 6. Class Information/Rules |

Good organization skills are a key to success in CP Chemistry. Everything I hand out to you in class has a purpose – you shouldn't throw anything away!

When You Need Help...

Whether you're struggling in CP Chemistry, having trouble with a specific concept, or just need a little help now and then, please feel free to ask me for help – that's why I'm here! Here's how to contact me:

- In person:** 1st (prep) or 5th (lunch) or 7th (duty) in Room 210; after school in Room 207 or 210
Email: ke_ccarman@kentschools.net
Web: <http://www.kentschools.net/ccarman/>; <http://www.facebook.com/chris.carman/>
Text: 330-474-9395

Finally...

Thanks for being here! I'm very excited to have you in class, and I'm looking forward to a great year of exploring science together. I hope I can help your experience in CP Chemistry to be extremely positive!

