

Chemistry 115
Summer 2008

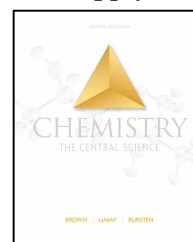
Chemical Principles I
Lecture 10:00 – 11:30 Mon. - Thurs.
Recitation 11:45 – 12:45 Tues., Wed.
Small Science Auditorium (S-1-006)

Dr. Christopher N. LaFratta 617-287-6133 (UMass office) 617-627-4170 (Tufts lab)
christopher.lafratta@umb.edu Office: S-1-130
Office hours: Thursdays 1-3, or by appointment

Course Objective: To understand fundamental chemical concepts such as atomic structure, the periodic table, reaction stoichiometry, and basic thermodynamics and to be able to apply these principles to solve problems outside the classroom.

Text: Chemistry The Central Science, 10th ed. by Brown, Lemay, Bursten

Web Site: <http://alpha.chem.umb.edu/chemistry/ch115/lafratta/index.html>



Course Structure

CHEM 115 has three components: lecture, recitation, and laboratory. The exams will be based on the lectured material. Slides used during lecture will be available online and can be used to take notes on. Recitation sessions will primarily focus on homework questions and exam preparation. The laboratory coordinators are Wei Shi, Aleksandra Ruduitskaya, Narah Ominde, and Fengying Zhu. If you do not complete the laboratory satisfactorily, you will receive an "F" for the course, regardless of your performance on lecture examinations. All questions regarding laboratory policy and attendance issues should be directed to your laboratory coordinator.

Attendance & Participation

Attendance is expected for all lectures but will only be recorded during recitations. During this condensed semester the pace will be rapid and, since the newest material discussed will be based on the previous material, it is critical not to fall behind. Questions are encouraged during lecture. If something is unclear please ask me to clarify it. That is why I am here.

Homework

Homework problems will be assigned on most days, but will not be turned in. Assignments should require ~60 minutes to complete. Using the information discussed in class is the only way to understand it and commit it to memory. I assure you, if you do not do the homework you will not do well in this class.

Quizzes

The quizzes are unannounced and designed to be quick assessment indicators. The purpose of the quizzes is to encourage you to review your notes/homework before class. If the homework is done, the quizzes should be straightforward. There are no make up quizzes and the lowest quiz grade will be dropped.

Exams

There are 3 exams and a final. They will be closed-book and will cover the material since the previous exam. There are no make-up exams. The lowest of the first 3 exam grades will be dropped. The final exam will be comprehensive. A calculator and a pencil are all that is required for the exam. Cell phones or other wireless communication devices are not allowed as calculators. Cheating will not be tolerated and may result in failing the exam, failing the course, or expulsion from the university. (www.umb.edu/student_affairs/code.html)

Exam Dates	
Exam #1	Mon. June 9th
Exam #2	Mon. June 23th
Exam #3	Mon July 7th
Final Exam	Wed. July 9th

Grades

Grades are calculated using the percentages below.

Attendance & Participation	5%
Quizzes (6) (lowest dropped)	15%
3 Exams (lowest dropped)	45%
Final Exam	40%
TOTAL	105%

Grades are not curved. The minimum for each grade level is 85% = A-, 75% = B-, 65% = C-, 55% = D-. You cannot get a grade of "INC" unless are (1) passing the course and (2) the reason you are not completing the course is beyond your control.

Accessibility Resources: <http://www.rosscenter.umb.edu/>

UMass is committed to accessibility for all students. Anyone with specific needs is encouraged to discuss them with me within the first week of the course.

Suggestions for Success:

- 1) Participate in class. Asking for help is not a sign of weakness. Ask me or another student if something is unclear.
- 2) Do the homework and prepare for every class as if there will be a quiz.
- 3) Avoid memorizing specific examples. Try to understand the underlying rules and principles.