**Chemistry**

**Mr. Fitzgerald**

**Stockbridge High School**

**Course Objective:** We live in a society dominated by technology, medicine, and intellectual advancement. As a result, this course is designed to improve the understanding of our rapidly changing world. In addition, understanding gained throughout this course will serve as a foundation for future coursework here at SHS as well as preparation for introductory college chemistry courses.

**Course Description:** Chemistry is an elective course for Juniors and Seniors focusing on the fundamentals of chemistry including but not limited to: The Nature of Matter, Kinds of Substances, and Interactions of Matter. We will follow closely with the textbook as we work through the material throughout the semester. In addition to the science, this course will also focus on reasoning skills, lab safety, measurement techniques, and organization skills. Unit exams and quizzes are given, along with daily assignments, textbook activities, and laboratory investigation.

**Available Resources:**

1. The textbook, Holt, Rinehart and Winston, Modern Chemistry

2. Mr. Fitzgerald

3. Handouts, the internet, a friend who is understanding the topic

**Supplies Needed:**

1. Pen or pencil

2. calculator

3. spiral notebook

4. folder with pockets

5. looseleaf paper

 

**Mr. Fitzgerald – Science – Grading Scale**

Grading Scale is based on raw points/% points available. Letter Grade is consistent with district-wide grading scale. Physics, Chemistry, and Human A&P all receive 7% mark-up on raw points for tests or quizzes worth over 30 raw points due to the more demanding nature of those classes; this adjustment results in the final letter grade for that test or quiz.

Late homework, class assignments, or incomplete assignments (lack of effort) will automatically receive a grade of 50%. But you may turn in late assignments at any time. In other words, late is late. You will have one day to make up missed assignments in order to retain full credit.

If you miss the day of a test (or quiz) or the day before a test, on the day you come back you must have the test completed by the end of the second school day (does not have to be consecutive) to gain full credit. Each school day beyond that will result in a deduction of 5 raw points.

Homework/class assignments will typically be graded out of 10 or 20 total points not a tally of total points. An adjusted scale is used to grade these assignments as they are not based on a point for point system.

Scale for 10 point assignments: -1 9/10 90%

-2-3 8/10 80%

-4-6 7/10 70%

-7+ 6/10 60%

Scale for 20 point assignments: -1 19/20 95%

-2 18/20 90%

-3-4 17/20 85%

-5-6 16/20 80%

-7-8 15/20 75%

-8-9 14/20 70%

-10+ 13/20 65%

**Positive Participation Points** – Block classes will receive 15 pp points each term. Year long classes will receive 10 pp points each term. These points are extra credit and can help your grade significantly. They are based on how well you POSTIVELY PARTICIPATE while in class. That means pp points can be deducted for *tardies, not being prepared, behavior, preventing others from learning or me from teaching or insubordination* (not using given class time to work/not following directions). PP Points are yours to lose, you may not be told when they are deducted, so behave and work when asked to and you will retain them.

**Extra Credit** – Extra credit opportunities will randomly come up. If you have an idea for an extra credit assignment ask me about it. A student will NOT be awarded extra credit if they are missing assignments for that term.

**Checking your grade –** I advise you to check your grade periodically to see how you are performing. This has to take place during breaks in lecture or work periods or on your own time. Do not ask to see your grades if I am teaching class.

**Attendance and Discipline Policy**

**Absences:**

For questions pertaining to grades when absent see the grading section. If you miss class, all assignments done during that time will be in that subject's box located by the west wall. Ask me as soon as you can if you have any questions about missed assignments. You will have one day after you are back from absence to make up assignments and retain full credit.

**Tardies:**

1. You must be in class and ready to work when the bell rings.

2. You will receive a verbal warning that your tardy has been notated for the first tardy.

**Classroom Behavior:**

1. Your behavior should follow what is: deemed socially acceptable by the teacher or outlined in the student handbook and school constitution.

2. Any behavior contrary to what is stated in the above sentence will result in a verbal warning.

3. A second warning for behavior will result in being sent to the principal's office.

4. Excessive or repeated disruptive/disrespectful behavior will result in being immediately sent to the principal's office.

**Classroom expectations:**

1. You are not to bring the following into the classroom: a backpack, food, cans of soda/liquid, cell phones, or any musical device etc.

2. If you are present with a backpack after the bell has rang you will be asked to return it to your locker resulting in a tardy (as outlined above).

3. Food and cans of soda in the classroom after the bell rings will be thrown away.

4. Mp3's if seen or heard will be confiscated by the teacher and held until the end of the day. If there is a second offense, your mp3 player will be confiscated and sent to the principal's office, at which point a parent will have to pick it up for you.

**Student Use of Communication Devices**

Student use of electronic two way communication devices (e.g., cell phones, PDAs, smartphones, etc.) during class time is prohibited, except with the permission of the principal for permissible medical or other appropriate exemptions.  Cell phones that are brought to school must be off and stored in the student’s locker during classes.  Students are permitted to use their cell phones before school, after school, and during lunch.

**Consequences for violating this policy:**

1.      First Offense:  The cell phone is confiscated and held overnight in the office.  The phone may be picked up by the student the following morning.

2.      Second Offense:  The cell phone will be confiscated for three days.  School administrators will contact the parent and arrange for the parent to pick up the phone with the understanding that adherence to school expectations regarding cell phone use will be followed.

3.      Subsequent Offenses:  The cell phone will be confiscated, parents will be contacted, and more severe consequences imposed to include, but not limited to, suspension from school and/or a recommendation to the Board of Education for expulsion from school.

Building principals shall annually inform students of this policy.

Whenever this policy is revised by the Board, the District Administrator shall submit a copy of the revised policy to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Legal Reference:         118.258 Wisconsin Statutes