

Chemistry

Ms. Sparks

Class Goal: •To learn the basic fundamentals behind matter, reactions, and energy.
•To understand how these fundamentals relate to You.

Expectations: We will abide by the three R's: respect for oneself, respect for others, responsibility for one's actions. Meaning: I expect and demand exemplary work and a strong effort by all students -be prideful in your work. In dealing with various chemicals, I expect responsible and safe behavior in the classroom at all times. **I do not tolerate derogatory comments about others!**

Materials needed: You must bring a three ring binder and a calculator to class each day. The calculator must at least have square root function and log/natural log capabilities available. Since we will be working on the school server, you must also know your password.

Grading Policy: Tests are curved if the average is lower than 75% but I do not curve the overall grade. Homework, projects, and quizzes will not be curved.

The overall grade is broken down by:

Tests and quizzes	50%
Homework	10%
Project	10%
Notebook/portfolio	5%
Labs	25%

Homework Policy: Late work is not accepted under any conditions. Homework will be given 4 days a week. It is due at the beginning of class the day after it is assigned. Students will not be penalized for wrong answers but will be penalized for incomplete work. Incomplete work includes homework that does not show all the steps involved in obtaining an answer. **SHOW ALL WORK!** Or you will not be given credit. This allows me to help you understand where your calculations may contain an error. I did not understand is not an acceptable excuse for not attempting homework. I should see failed tries on your homework. You can drop two homework assignments for every 14 assigned.

If you are absent: If you are absent 1-2 days, you have 5 days to make-up the work. If you are absent 3 or more days, we will negotiate when the make-up work is due. If you miss a lab you will either (1) come after school and make-up the lab or (2) have a research project to present to the class. It is strongly suggested that students do not miss labs.

Labs: We will do labs in assigned groups. Some labs will follow the typical college format which includes: Title, Purpose, Background/Abstract, Materials, Procedures, Cautions, Observations, Calculations, and Conclusions/ Discussion. See attached for example. There will be some labs that will be written up as a business letter—to be discussed later in the term.

Projects: A project will be assigned each term. It will be described during the first week of each term and will be due the 2nd Friday before the end of the marking period.

Notebook: See hand out

Tests: Tests will be given once every 2 – 4 weeks. My tests are designed such that it is difficult to “cram” and do well. They are comprehensive and will include info from previous tests. I combine chapters so you will be tested on units. There will be no midterm.

Final: The final will be comprehensive at the end of the 2nd term. There will be four components to the test. 1. A lab practical which will measure your lab skills and your ability to analyze data. 2. Conceptual integration which will measure your ability to use and transfer your knowledge of the basic fundamentals. Science is not a collection of isolated facts but rather a connected web of relationships. 3. Calculations related to the basic fundamentals of chemistry. The final will not contain any obscure formulas. 4. General knowledge that will comprise of the main concepts of the course. There will be one in-class review session and one after school review session one week before the test. You will be allowed to bring in a 3 X 5 card or have 30 minutes of open book at the end of the test. Seniors will be exempt from the only if they have a solid A; an A- will not be exempt from the final.

I am looking forward to this year and I hope you are, too!

Ms Sparks

I have read the above material and understand what is expected of me.

Student Signature

Date

Parent Signature/email (if available)

You can reach me at (734) 429-8000 X 2314 or email at sparksb@saline.k12.mi.us

I have a web site available that will have homework, grades, lecture notes, additional problems, project topics and information, and expectations/rubrics.

<http://salineschools.com/users/sparksb>