Chem 35, General Chemistry for Majors 1

LECTURE: MWF 10:50 - 11:40 a.m.; Kalkin 001

M 6:00-9:00; Lafayette L403 (Exams will be taken at this time. We will NOT meet every week)

LABORATORY:

Section A01: W 5:05 - 7:50 p.m.
Section A02: R 1:15 - 4:00 p.m.
Section A03: R 6:00 - 8:45 p.m.
All three lab sections are held in A141 Cook

INSTRUCTOR:

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TEACHING ASSISTANT:  TBD

TEXT AND OTHER ITEMS (required):

Atkins, Jones, "Chemical Principles: The Quest for Insight," 7th edition, W. H. Freeman & Co. This is the only Chemistry textbook that I've found that is readable in its own right but also covers the material at a depth that is appropriate for this course. Copies of the textbook, along with an access code for Sapling Learning registration, are available from the UVM bookstore. Both hardcopies and loose-leaf (cheaper) are available. You may also opt to "rent" a digital copy from Sapling Learning (at considerable savings). Sapling Homework registration for course (see instructions here) This is required for the graded homework component of the course.

LAB MANUAL:

There is no lab manual for the course. Lab write-ups for all the experiments are available for download (as pdf files) from the Chem 35 Blackboard site.

LAB NOTEBOOK: A BOUND lab notebook is REQUIRED and may be purchased in the bookstore. It must be well organized and all data must be recorded directly into it in pen.

BREAKAGE CARD: You must have one in order to check into the lab! Pay your $40.00 to the kind people in the first floor stockroom (A143 Cook) and they'll give you a card that entitles you to all of the
rights and privileges of a genuine Chem 35 student. Bring the card to every lab session. If you're careful with your equipment throughout the term, you should get most of your $$ back at the end of the semester when you check out.

GENERAL LABORATORY GUIDELINES: It goes without saying that your safety in the lab is of prime importance. For many of you, this will be the first time that you will encounter a number of truly hazardous substances in the lab. Please heed all warnings and handle these substances as directed!

At the end of the semester you will have to check out of the laboratory and replace (using your breakage card) any missing or damaged equipment. If you do not check out of the laboratory, you will not receive a grade or credit for the course, and you will forfeit the breakage fee.

Remember your lock combination! There will be a charge of $1.00, after the first week, if we have to look it up for you.

You are required to wear OSHA approved safety glasses or goggles while working in the laboratory. Contact lenses should NOT be worn in the lab; they can absorb and pre-concentrate noxious vapors and are very dangerous should you accidentally get some chemicals in your eyes. If possible, wear your glasses to lab, instead! If you do not have prescription glasses and must use contact lenses, then you must use safety goggles and not safety glasses.

All work, data, observations, etc. are to be recorded in ink in your notebook, not on loose pieces of paper.

You are expected to keep the laboratory clean.

There is ample time to do all of the experiments in the scheduled time, provided that you are prepared when you arrive; i.e., if you have read and understand the material in the laboratory manual for that week's experiment. The schedule for the laboratory experiments is posted here.

It is expected that every student will attend their regularly scheduled lab section. All lab sections are full and switching to another lab is extremely difficult to arrange even for one week.

If you MISS a lab for a documented sickness or family crisis, you need to notify your T.A. immediately or leave a phone message for your T.A. at the Chemistry Office (656-2594) BEFORE the lab so that arrangements can be made with the T.A. to make up the lab that same week. Remember: if you miss more than two labs without a documented excuse, you will receive a failing grade for the course.

OFFICE HOURS: I will establish and announce office hours for the semester during the first week of classes. I will be available at other times as well (see me to make an appointment) and, of course, you are welcome to stop by my office at your convenience (but, if I am busy we will have to reschedule for another time). Also, I am virtually available via email for your questions; I check my email regularly every day (even on weekends), so you should be able to get an email reply to a question within 12 hours of your posting it to me (barring any unforeseen technical difficulties!).

GRADING: There will be two semester exams and one comprehensive final exam. The three semester exams are scheduled for September 26th, October 24th and November 28th (all Mondays) beginning at 6:00 p.m. and ending no later than 9:00 p.m. The date of the final exam is 10:30 a.m. - 1:15 p.m. Friday, December 16th in room Kalkin 001 and will cover material from the entire semester.
Laboratory: 250 points
Exam I: 100 points
Exam II: 100 points
Exam III: 100 points
Quizzes: 200 points
Final Exam: 250 points
TOTAL: 1000 points

Missed exams Please make every effort not to miss an exam. If you have a scheduled conflict with an evening exam, you must notify me at least one week before the exam; I will then arrange an alternate time for you to take the exam. If you miss an exam for an invalid reason, you will receive a ZERO for a grade on that exam.

Missed labs
Since the laboratories operate on an extremely tight schedule, it is expected that every student will attend their regularly scheduled lab section unless it is absolutely impossible for them to do so (i.e., due to a documented illness, being out of town due to a family problem, etc.). Oversleeping, studying for an exam, or just plain not being prepared are not valid excuses. If you must miss a lab for a valid reason, notify your lab instructor before the scheduled lab period (you can email your T.A. or call the Chem Department office, 656-2594, and leave a message for them, if necessary).

Excused labs must be made-up the same week that they were missed. To make-up a missed lab, find a lab section (preferably in the same room that you normally have lab) that you can fit into your schedule; contact the instructor for that section and ask them if there is room for you to make-up the lab; notify your regular lab instructor as to when and where you intend to make-up the lab and obtain any special instructions for your lab section from him/her. If you cannot make-up an excused lab, notify your lab instructor -- your grade for that lab will be your average lab grade for the semester (as determined at the end of the semester).

You may not make-up an unexcused lab! You will receive a grade of zero for each unexcused lab. If you accumulate more than two unexcused lab absences, you will not receive a passing grade for the course!

LECTURE: In order to learn the lecture material, one must work problems. To help you with this task, I will periodically hand out problem sets. The problem sets will not be collected or graded. It is up to you to keep up with the material and work the problems in a timely fashion. WORKING DILIGENTLY THROUGH THE ASSIGNED PROBLEMS IS THE BEST PREPARATION FOR DOING WELL IN THIS COURSE!

If a particular problem is stumping you, move on to another one and go back to it later. If you still can't work the problem, get some help from me, your TA, or your fellow classmates. Then re-do the problem on your own. Do this until you can solve all of the problems. Feel free to work with others when working
problems, but remember that you will be required to solve similar problems by yourself when you take the exams.

THE WEB: All course-relevant information, deadlines, announcements, etc., will be posted to the Chem 35 Blackboard site.