

Instructor: Dr. K. Walters
SC 348
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<http://www.nku.edu/~walterske>

Office Hours: I have an open office policy, so stop by whenever you have a question (I will not always be in my office but will always indicate where I can be found or when I will return). My formal office hours are as follows: MW 2:00-3:00, TRF 9:00-10:00. Feel free to make an appointment for any other time.

Prerequisite: High school chemistry or CHE 110 or equivalent
Corequisite: CHE 120L (any section)

Objectives:

1. Learn basic principles concerning atomic structure, theory, and periodic trends.
2. Learn basic principles concerning aqueous reactions, properties of gases, and thermodynamics.
3. Learn basic principles concerning chemical bonding and intermolecular forces.

The Student:

1. ...should always come to lecture on time.
2. ...should review material from previous courses as needed to understand new topics.
3. ...should stay *ahead* of the lecture in the textbook.
4. ...should come to lecture already having read the anticipated material to be covered.
5. ...should participate in lecture at every opportunity to demonstrate comprehension.
6. ...should complete all assignments on time.
7. ...should try to have at least a little fun learning chemistry.

The Instructor:

1. ...should always be on time for lecture and be prepared to teach.
2. ...should present material in a clear, organized manner at a speed necessary to cover all topics.
3. ...should encourage the student to think about the presented material creatively.
4. ...should assign appropriate problems to help the student master the material.
5. ...should prepare fair, thorough exams that cover the presented material.
6. ...should be absolutely impartial in all matters grading.
7. ...should have lots of fun teaching chemistry.

Required Text: *Chemistry*, by Raymond Chang (7th Edition), WCB/McGraw-Hill, New York, 2002.

Course Content: Chapters 1–11.

Internet: The NKU Blackboard website is used extensively in this course (<http://learnonline.nku.edu>). Course announcements, suggested homework problems (and their answers), grades, online supplementary materials, discussion boards, and online quizzes are available *only* through the site, and you are responsible for all posted information. Take advantage of all the presented material (especially the discussion board), and please post questions to me on the discussion boards if possible rather than sending me email. You should also utilize the NKU General Chemistry website (http://www.nku.edu/~chemistry/general_chem/), where you will find helpful handouts and old exams.

Attendance: Attendance will be taken in lecture via CPS at the beginning of class. If you arrive late you must let me know that you attended lecture at the end of the period, or you will be counted absent. You get 3 “free” absences during the term. Any additional absences will result in the deduction of 2 points from your final course grade. If you have a legitimate reason to be absent, it can be excused if you provide me with appropriate documentation. Even if you are absent, you are responsible for all information, material, and assignments presented in lecture in addition to any material posted on Blackboard. Tardiness is also not tolerated in this class, since it is disruptive to both myself and your fellow students. For every five tardy lectures, you will receive one absence on your attendance record.

Participation: During lecture you will be asked to answer questions in class to determine mastery of the different topics that we are currently discussing. You will answer these multiple-choice questions via CPS, which keeps a record of your participation and right/wrong answers. I use this information to see who needs additional help on particular topics as well as who is actively participating in the lecture. Even if you are present but choose not to participate, you risk losing points from your participation grade.

- Studying:** It has been said that students should spend 2-3 hours studying for each hour of lecture. Science courses tend to err on the high side of this estimate, so you should commit yourself to studying **7-10 hours** each week during the course. Cramming the last night or two before exams will not be sufficient to comprehend the material.
- Homework:** Selected end of chapter problems will be assigned for each chapter. Answers will be posted online after we complete a chapter, and it is your responsibility to check your work. I tend to take questions directly from these problems when I write quizzes and exams, so it is in your best interest to do your best on these problems!
- OWL:** Along with the assigned homework, you will participate in OWL (Online Web-Assisted Learning, <http://owl.thomsonlearning.com>), an online homework system that gives you the opportunity to master the concepts of this course through repetition. You will be assigned modules to complete by posted due dates. Failure to complete modules in a timely manner will adversely affect your homework grade. A tutorial session for OWL will be held in a computer lab during the first week of class.
- Quizzes:** There will be ten quizzes conducted online during the term. The day of the week when quizzes will be administered will be determined by the class. Each quiz is worth 10 points and will consist of five or six true/false, multiple choice, and/or short answer questions. Quizzes will be available to take from noon to midnight. You will have 45 minutes to complete each quiz. Each student will not receive the same quiz, as each is a random combination of similar questions covering recent topics presented in lecture. You are expected to take your quiz individually and not work together (the NKU Honor Code applies). **There will be no makeup quizzes under any circumstance (including network problems), and missed quizzes will be assigned a zero grade.** Note further that **unannounced** quizzes may be conducted in lecture during the term. You can expect at least three or four of these in-class quizzes. Only your ten highest quiz scores will count towards your final grade.
- Exams:** There will be four exams during the semester (2/6, 3/5, 4/2, and 4/26) in addition to the comprehensive final exam (Wednesday 5/5 8–10 AM). Each student who misses any exams will be allowed **one** makeup exam during the semester **only if they contact me within 24 hours of the original exam date.** The makeup exam must be taken **within five weekdays** of the original test date. You will be required to provide an appropriate reason (and documentation) to qualify for a makeup exam. Note also that makeup exams are usually more challenging than the original exam.
- Calculators:** Programmable and graphing calculators are not permitted during exams. Calculators should be brought to class every day, as they will be needed during lecture examples and will be necessary for taking the quizzes and exams. Under no circumstances may calculators be shared during exams, and the lack of an operable calculator will not excuse you from completing the problems! You should also **practice** with this calculator before you use it in an exam!
- Grade Breakdown:**
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| Quizzes (10 pts. each, highest 10 count) | = 100 points |
| Homework and Participation (100 pts total) | = 100 points |
| 4 Exams (150 pts. each) | = 600 points |
| Final Exam (200 pts.) | = 200 points |
| Total possible points | = 1,000 points |
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- | <u>Point Total</u> | <u>Grade</u> |
|--------------------|--------------|
| 900 – 1000 | A |
| 800 – 899 | B |
| 700 – 799 | C |
| 600 – 699 | D |
| 0 – 599 | F |
- Course Evaluation:** On selected Saturdays you will be given the opportunity to give me feedback on the course online. The evaluation will include two or three simple questions (what did you like/dislike? Is anything not making sense?). Each evaluation that you complete with some thought (“I like it” or “I hate it” do not count) will earn you 1 point added to your final grade. I consider these points the **sole opportunity** for extra credit in this course. Please do not ask me for any other methods of obtaining extra credit.
- Other Notes:**
- The NKU Honor Code is in effect for all quizzes and exams taken in this course. Make sure you are familiar with this policy by checking the following website:

<http://www.nku.edu/~deanstudents/HonorCode.htm>

- This syllabus is subject to change. Check the NKU Blackboard website regularly for updates.
- No cell phones or pagers can be left on during class. Students who choose to leave their phones or pagers on will be asked to leave.
- No smelly, messy, or loud food is allowed in lecture.
- If there is any part of this syllabus that you do not understand, you must bring it to my attention within one week of its distribution.