



Chemistry

Fall 2022

Teacher: Dr. Aspen Clements Miller
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Room: 106
Canvas: [Link to Canvas](#)

Welcome new members of our scientific community! Welcome to my chemistry class. I appreciate you taking the time to read this and getting to know me, my expectations, and what to expect from chemistry with Dr. Clements Miller. I am excited to be back for my third year teaching at MCHS. My preferred pronouns are she/her/hers. You can call me Dr. CM for short.

I am committed to supporting the learning of all students in my class. If the design or the instruction of this course result in any barriers to your participation, please let me know.

*“If you wish to make apple pie from scratch, you must first create the universe”
-Carl Sagan*

To truly make an apple pie from scratch you must first create molecules like sugar, but before making molecules you must make atoms (hydrogen, carbon, oxygen, ...). Throughout this course, we will cover the fundamentals of how atoms and molecules behave, react, and what scientists have studied to understand the chemical world around us. We can do this by using instruments or telescopes like that shown above, the Very Large Array.

By the end of the semester, if you have been engaged and done the exercises you will be able to do the following:

- *explain the principles related to chemistry (structure and behavior of matter)*
- *observe chemical phenomenon and connect them to concepts learned in class and articulate the omnipresence of chemistry in your day-to-day life*
- *design and perform laboratory experiments*
- *reflect upon and recognize your growth within the course and find meaningful ways to improve your learning*

Classroom Expectations:

1. *Students are to follow all school and classroom rules as written in the handbook.*
2. *Students will treat classmates, teachers, and classrooms with respect.*
3. *Always follow proper safety protocol while in the lab.*
4. *Clean up after yourself. This includes wiping tables and lab benches down.*
5. *Enter the room quietly, store belongings, and begin opening assignments.*
6. *Participate and contribute to classroom discussions.*
7. *Complete and submit activities as assigned.*

Academic Expectations:

Students will be expected to read class materials outside of class and be prepared to work through problems and investigations during class.

Late work will be given a 10% late penalty every week following the due date. After four weeks the maximum grade you can achieve will be a 60%. This does not apply to students that were absent that day. All makeup work is available on Canvas.

Grade Breakdown:

Class Work and Reflections 20%

Quizzes & Writing Assignments 20%

Exams and Projects 60%

Semester grade is calculated with 45% Q1, 45% Q2, and 10% final project.

Suggested Supplies:

- 2 inch three-ringed binder
- 1 subject college notebook
- 3 red pens
- Pencils
- Index cards (optional)
- Kleenex box (optional)

Canvas Info:

[Canvas](#) is primarily used for makeup work. If you missed class, make sure to check [Canvas](#) for makeup work. If the circumstances prevent you from working on school (hospital visit, death in the family, etc.) please let me know.

Textbook Info:

[The textbook](#) will be used as a reading resource (outside of class) and a source for practice problems (inside of class).

Textbook Access Code: USVA067921-EC1-SB-0628-2WF7R

Communication:

The best way to contact me is by email. I will do my best to respond within 24 academic hours. The best time to reach me by phone is during the school day. To ensure we are being as transparent as possible, I will reach out once a month with a newsletter. I will include any upcoming due dates for big projects as well as images of exceptional student work that has been achieved over the last month (with the consent of the students that completed said work), as well as any other important information. Please reach out if there is any particular information you would want to know in next month's newsletter.

I am looking forward to getting to know you all throughout this school year. Let's make it a great year!