Course Policy Statement

CHEM 163-01, General Chemistry I Fall 2013

Course Policies—please read, print, sign, & return to Dr. Kirkpatrick on the date assigned in class.

Many of the policies are stated on the Course Information page on the first day of class; it is available on Blackboard. It is assumed that when you sign and submit this form (which, as stated in the syllabus, is a course requirement), you also have read the syllabus and agree to abide by the policies given in both documents.

Calculators—Your calculator should have functions that allow you to add, subtract, multiply and divide. It should also be able to handle exponents, logarithms, and powers of 10.

With regard to exams, only calculators that are permitted on the ACT, SAT or AP tests may be used. Phones and other devices that have the ability to communicate with the Internet and other people are not allowed. Guides for approved calculators are found for ACT, SAT, and AP.

Internet—will be a required tool in this course and it is the student’s responsibility to ensure that they have adequate computer/internet access. Students will be expected to use Blackboard; references to external web sites may be given from time to time as well. Students are responsible for checking and maintaining their SLU e-mail addresses. E-mail software should be capable of reading html messages, sending and receiving attachments. Students are responsible for maintaining the security of their own passwords on these systems and should be prepared to download, view, and print PDF files.

Memorization—the emphasis of this course will be on learning and applying ideas and concepts. With some exceptions (units, names and formulas of ions and compounds, the characterization of chemicals with regard to function and structure, etc.) students will not be asked to memorize long data sets, but will be expected to know and use fundamental pieces of information (such as mathematical equations) that are normally associated with a beginning chemistry course.

Homework—will be assigned, but not collected. This is an important part of the course. Test scores often reflect the degree to which a student has done the homework.

Exams—will be given on the dates indicated on the syllabus.

In case you miss an exam, contact Dr. Kirkpatrick immediately. Only the following are acceptable reasons for being excused from taking an exam at the scheduled time:
- medical problem (doctor’s certification required)
- serious family emergency (e-mail/phone notification from Student Counseling Services required)

In case of an emergency, it is the student’s responsibility to contact the Instructor as soon as possible. The documentation to support an excused absence should be presented to the instructor on the day you return to class. If excused from an exam, the grade for the missing exam will be computed from the portions of the Final Exam that are relevant to the missed exam because, in general, no make-up exams will be given. An exam grade of zero will be assigned for an unexcused absence.

If you are representing the University at an athletic event or have a conflict with a regularly scheduled class, contact your instructor as soon as possible for an alternate testing time.

The final exam is a course requirement, and is given during finals week according to the final exam schedule posted by the University Registrar.

Class Attendance—is expected. Roll will not be taken, but regular attendance is strongly encouraged to help you keep up with the material and to see the emphasis the instructor is placing on the lecture topics.

Academic Honesty is expected. Cheaters are being unfair to themselves and to other students. Admission to Saint Louis University is based on past academic accomplishments and standardized test scores, both of which indicate that everyone in the class has the talent to be successful. Cheating is a serious matter, and will be dealt with according to the Arts & Sciences Policy on Academic Honesty ( http://www.slu.edu/x12657.xml ). Sanctions for cheating could range from receiving no credit for an exam, an "F" in the course, to dismissal from the University.

Privacy—Your grades are confidential information between you and the instructor. Information will not be released and no discussions will occur with parents/guardians unless the student has submitted the appropriate FERPA release form to the Registrar.

Respect—Students and the instructor will respect the learning environment. Examples of this include: starting and stopping class periods on-time, no disruptive or distracting behavior in class, no derogatory or demeaning comments about others, and being prepared for class.

Grades—Course grades will be given at the end of the semester, based on the information found in the syllabus. These are permanent grades that will be recorded on the transcript and incorporated into the semester and cumulative grades point averages. Students will be periodically updated on the status of their grades throughout the semester, particularly after tests and at midterm—these grades are not permanent and do not appear on the transcript. The best strategy for receiving a good grade at the end of the course is to start (and continue) the semester with good performance. Very few students are able to “pull it out at the end” by getting an “A” on the final exam.
Disabilities—In recognition that people learn in a variety of ways and that learning is influenced by multiple factors (e.g., prior experience, study skills, learning disability), resources to support student success are available on campus. Students who think they might benefit from these resources can find out more about:

- Course-level support (e.g., faculty member, departmental resources, etc.) by asking your course instructor.

- University-level support (e.g., tutoring/writing services, Disability Services) by visiting the Student Success Center (BSC 331) or by going to www.slu.edu/success.

Students who believe that, due to a disability, they could benefit from academic accommodations are encouraged to contact Disability Services at 314-977-8885 or visit the Student Success Center. Confidentiality will be observed in all inquiries.

Course instructors support student accommodation requests when an approved letter from Disability Services has been received and when students discuss these accommodations with the instructor after receipt of the approved letter.

Recordings—Students may make audio and/or video recording of the class. When doing so a student is agreeing to the following conditions: (1) the recording is for his/her personal use only while enrolled in the course, and (2) the original and/or modified recording, or portions of it, are not to be posted on Internet sites.

I agree to abide by the course policies as described here and in the course syllabus.

Name (printed):

Signature:

Student ID Number: