

Syllabus Chemistry 1A  
Lecture M/W 9:30 – 10:45 AM MSCI 204  
Lab M/W 11:00- 1:50 PM MSCI 201

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When emailing make sure you put chem. 1A in the subject line so as to prevent the spam filter from filtering out your email.

**Course Objective:** Chem 1A is a required course for many science majors and a required prerequisite for many professional programs such as medical school or pharmacy school. If you have never taken chemistry it would be advisable to take chem. 3A or chem. 10 before attempting chem. 1A.

**Required course materials:**

Textbook: *Chemistry: A Molecular Approach*, by Nivaldo Tro, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition. The hardcover full textbook and the softcover chem. 1A textbook are both available in the bookstore and through many online retailers. I recommend buying used versions or renting the textbook. Calculator: a scientific calculator is required for chem. 1A, you should expect to bring it to class and to lab. You will need to purchase an access code to [www.masteringchemistry.com](http://www.masteringchemistry.com), which is what will be used for homework

**Required lab materials:** lab coat, safety goggles, these are available at the bookstore or online. Closed toed shoes are also required when working in the lab. The lab experiments will be handed out in lab/lecture times so there is nothing to buy.

**Lecture format:** Chem 1A lecture will consist of 2 lectures every week excluding holidays. Student versions of the PowerPoint lecture notes will be available for download via Canvas. Downloading and using these notes during class is strongly urged. Good note taking and listening skills will greatly increase your likelihood of success in college. Read the chapter to be covered before coming to class and review the notes as well. There will be homework assigned for every chapter, see note below. Office hours will be Mon – Thurs from 2 – 2:50 pm in the lab

**Study Recommendations:** Chemistry 1A is a fully transferable college level chemistry course. As a subject chemistry is very challenging, and the generally accepted rule of thumb for study time outside of class is 2 – 3 hours of study for every unit. So for chem 1A you need to expect to study 10 - 12 hours per week. Some students will require more and some less, this is dependent on the individual.

**Homework:** Homework will be assigned every chapter through [www.masteringchemistry.com](http://www.masteringchemistry.com) , it is essential to your success in this class that you do all the assigned homework and read the relevant sections in your textbook. This is to ensure that you work consistently and can apply what you learn to problems. There will be no make-up homework assignments, but the very first assignment is extra credit. You can ask another student or tutor to help you with some problems, but you need to work them out for yourself.

**Attendance:** Attendance in lectures and lab is mandatory. You will be dropped automatically if you miss a total of 2 weeks of school without contacting me.

**Grading and evaluation:** There will be 5 exams and one comprehensive final. There will also be at least one homework for every chapter. The lowest exam of the four will be dropped. **There will be no make up exams, homework, labs or quizzes.** The various percentages of the final grade is outlined below.

The	Laboratory (30%):	<b>Lab Quizzes 7.5% - 4 lab quizzes</b> <b>Lab reports 15% - lowest 2 lab scores are dropped</b> <b>Lab practicals 7.5% - 2 practicals</b>
	Lecture Material (70%):	<b>Exams 40%, best 4 out of 5 – lowest exam is dropped</b> <b>Comprehensive Final 20%</b> <b>Homework Assignments 10%</b>

The grading scale to be used is **A** 90-100%, **B** 80-89%, **C** 70-79%, **D** 60-69%, **F** 0-59%

**Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Statement:** If you have a verified need for an academic accommodation or materials in alternate media (i.e., Braille, large print, electronic text, etc.) per the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, please contact me as soon as possible. If you choose to take the exams in the DSPS center you need to provide the required paperwork a full 1 week before the exam.

**Policy on Academic Dishonesty:** Because cheating, plagiarism, and collusion in dishonest activities erode the integrity of the college, each student is expected to exert an honest effort in all academic endeavors. Academic dishonesty in any form is a very serious offense and will incur serious consequences. When working on homework assignments you are encouraged to work together and help your fellow students learn the material but you must do your own work. If particular incidents of cheating rise to serious enough level they will be referred to the Dean for disciplinary action. An example of this is cheating on an exam. If a student is caught cheating on an exam they will likely receive a zero and this exam score will not be dropped. The student would also be referred to the Dean for appropriate disciplinary action. If you have any questions about what constitutes academic dishonesty, please see the Reedley College Course Catalogue

### **Important dates:**

Friday Aug 25 – Last day to drop a full-term class without receiving a “W”

Labor Day Holiday, Monday, September 4

Friday, Oct. 6 – Last day to drop a full-term class with a W.

Thanksgiving Nov 23

Final exam week Dec 4 - 8

See the schedule of courses for additional dates and times

### **Please be aware of the following rules and guidelines:**

- Although key points of the syllabus and schedule are discussed on the first day of the semester, it is the student’s responsibility to be aware of the content of the syllabus. In the event that there is a mistake or misprint in the syllabus the instructor reserves the right to correct the mistake and utilize this corrected syllabus for the remainder of the semester.
- Tardiness and leaving early during lecture or lab sessions are considered disruptive behavior and will result in an absence being recorded. Students will need to sign the sign-in sheet within the first 5 minutes of class. If a cumulative total of 2 weeks (2 class meetings) of absences is recorded, the student may be dropped.
- Shortly after the beginning of lecture and lab the door will be closed and locked, do not be late to class or lab as it is disruptive and a safety hazard in lab.
- Texting in class is discouraged and if it is disruptive to the people around you, you will be asked to leave and be given an absence for the day.
- Loud disruptive talking or visiting during the lecture is not permissible, and if it occurs the students involved will be asked to leave and will be given an absence for the day.
- Cheating during exams is graded with a zero and will be reported to the Dean of students and other appropriate administration officials. Cell phones are prohibited during exams; if a cell phone is observed during the exam the student will be awarded a zero for the exam and this will not be the exam that is dropped.
- Copying of homework, experimental data, and lab reports is considered fraudulent behavior for both the copier and the originator.
- Turn in lab reports before the end of the lab period.
- Late lab reports will not be accepted.
- Lab materials left at home or in the car etc. will not be accepted after the lab period.
- Homework is through Masteringchemistry.com; No alternative homework will be given.
- **No extra credit will be given except on the exams.**
- Dangerous behavior in the lab will result in the student being asked to leave the lab. Come prepared to lab, this includes lab coats and safety eyewear.
- Please silence your cell phones during lectures so as not to disturb the class. No cell phones or ipods will be allowed during exams.
- A cumulative total of 2 weeks of absences could result in being dropped from the course

### **In the lab:**

- **Attendance to the lab is mandatory, coming late will result in the student not being allowed to perform the experiment, coming late is a violation of standard safety protocol.**
- Cleanliness in the lab is very important in preventing accidental contamination. At the end of each lab thoroughly clean work area by disposing of loose paper and wiping countertops. Points will be deducted from experiment if work area is left messy.
- Safety goggles and lab coat are required to be worn whenever somebody near you is conducting an experiment.
- No experiments may be conducted without the instructor or teaching assistant present
- No horseplay or unauthorized experiments. Do not taste any chemical or smell any chemical directly.
- No visitors inside the lab. You need to go outside to meet with them.
- No food or drinks allowed.
- Backpacks should not be left on the floor where others can trip over them.
- Closed toed shoes must be worn in the lab at all times, no sandals.
- Long hair should be tied back so it will not fall into chemicals or flames.
- If any accident occurs in the lab, inform your instructor immediately and follow safety procedures. (To be discussed during first lab period)
- Clean up any spills promptly (Clean-up procedures will be discussed during first lab period)
- Do not point the open end of a test tube towards anybody
- Turn off flames when working with organic solvents. Dispose of them in waste bottles in the fume hood, not down the sink.
- At the beginning of each lab your instructor will inform you of any special safety precautions and how to dispose of used chemicals. You need to be on time for the lab so that you hear these instructions.
- Do not dispose of matches, paper or solid chemicals in the sink. Use the large evaporating dishes for spent matches.
- Put broken glassware in the “broken glassware container”, not with the trash.
- Before leaving the lab, wipe the desktop and wash your hands with soap and water.