



# KAP/AP Chemistry Syllabus

Mount Vernon High School  
2008-2009

## Contact Information

If you need to get a hold of me, I am available. You can email me at anytime. Your parents are encouraged to call or email me if they have questions or concerns. Be proactive, if you have a question contact me before it becomes a problem!

Instructor: Mrs. Hofferberth

Classroom: Room 143

Email: khofferberth@mvcasd.us

Phone: 393-5900 x5601

Course Website: *Hofferberth KAP Chemistry* on Schoology (www.Schoology.com, access code: 9TG5Z-SXGM3)

## Course Overview

The school day consists of eight 48-minute periods. KAP Chemistry meets Monday thru Friday, two periods per day.

Prerequisites include Physical Science, Biology, Chemistry I, and Algebra II with a B or higher. Concurrent enrollment in Pre-calculus or Calculus is recommended.

KAP Chemistry is a college level course that is designed to not only provide students with a solid general chemistry education but also to develop the student's abilities in the following areas: (1) read, understand, and interpret information from a wide variety of sources, (2) use appropriate problem solving skills, (3) use mathematical reasoning in solving problems, and (4) complete lab experiments, including data acquisition, interpreting the results and acknowledging the uncertainties associated with the experimental outcome. Students should expect to spend a minimum of ½ to 1 hour a day studying outside of class in order to master the course material.

Students are required to take both the ACS College General Chemistry Exam and the AP Chemistry Exam in the spring.

## Textbook

*Chemistry Principles and Reactions* · 2012

7th edition by Masterton and Hurley

ISBN 1-111-57258-5

Brooks/Cole-Thompson Learning, Belmont CA 94002

## Required Materials

3-ring binder with dividers for notes, handouts, and homework, etc.

3-ring binder (1- 2 inch) for labs, this will be left in the classroom

pencils and pens (pen required for lab); whiteboard markers

TI-84 or TI-83 calculator, or other graphing calculator

carbon copy laboratory notebook (provided by KAP program)

## Classroom Supplies (optional)

Donations of classroom supplies would be greatly appreciated! Items most often needed: whiteboard markers, tissues, colored pencils, glue sticks.

## Technology in the Classroom

At the teacher's discretion, students may use district-provided and/or personal devices to increase their chemistry learning. While we will discuss in detail how to use technology responsibly, a few expectations are:

- devices are only to be used with Mrs. Hofferberth's permission and for learning purposes
- use of devices for non-educational purposes is unacceptable and any student engaging in such behavior will lose the right to use their device in my classroom
- MVHS cannot be held responsible for data usage - wifi is available in the school
- no student is required or expected to bring or use their own device

## Labs

The laboratory portion of this class is designed to be the equivalent of a college laboratory experience. Because some colleges require proof of the laboratory portion of the course before granting credit, all students will generate a portfolio of lab reports. A minimum of 25% of class time will be spent in hands-on laboratory activities. See the course outline found on the course Moodle site for details.

Formal lab reports are required for many labs and include some or all of the following sections: date, title, abstract, introduction, experimental section, data, analysis, post-lab questions, and conclusion (including error analysis). As an alternative to the formal lab report, some labs will be assessed by a lab quiz or presentation to the class.

## Assessment

I grade according to the approved Mount Vernon High School Student Handbook. I strongly encourage each of you to check your course grade online on a weekly basis and speak to immediately if you have any concerns.

Tests and Quizzes (65%): Quizzes will be given frequently and may be retaken for a higher grade. They may or may not be announced. Tests will be announced and typically cover multiple topics.

Labs and Activities (35%): Labs are an integral part of KAP chemistry and will constitute at least 25% of our class time. All lab data will be collected in a lab notebook. Labs will be assessed either by lab quiz, formal lab report or other written prompt. All lab materials will be compiled into a portfolio of graded lab materials that will be kept in the classroom.

## Academic Honesty

Working with other students is an important aspect of learning and I encourage you to do so. However, copying another student's answers to a lab report, project, or other assessment is CHEATING and is not acceptable. While you and your lab partner will share data, you must each do your OWN calculations and your OWN analysis. Using unapproved outside resources is also cheating. You will not receive credit for an assignment if you cheat.

## Late Work and Absence Policy

Late work will be penalized 10%. All late work should be placed in the In Box on my desk and **must be received prior to the unit test to receive credit.**

In the case of absence, it is YOUR responsibility to determine any assignments missed and turn them in within the required time. A list of daily assignments and all handouts will be available on the course website. All work must be made up within the number of days absent unless other arrangements are explicitly approved by the instructor. If you are absent for a lab day, you will be expected to complete the lab outside of regular class time. **All missed work must be completed prior to the unit test to receive credit.**

## Course Outline

A detailed outline of the topics that will be covered in the class can be found on the course webpage.