CHEM 1410.005 – General Chemistry I for Science Majors

Instructor Contact

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Office Location: CHEM 261  
Phone Number: 940-369-8433  
Office Hours: MWF, 10:00am – 10:50am  
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Communication Expectations: My preferred method of contact is through email, which you can also access through Canvas. While I want to be available to you to answer all of your questions, I ask that you be patient. Consider posting your question to the Q&A forum on the discussion board. Generally, if you have the question, someone else will as well! Plus, if any of your fellow students know the answer, they can post it. I will try to reply to all emails within 48 hours during the regular working week. Emails received after noon on Fridays or over the weekend may not receive an answer until Monday mornings.

I also routinely communicate with the class as a whole through announcements in Canvas. Be sure to set up your Canvas page so that you receive push notifications of changes made to the page!

Any assignments that require manual grading will be completed within 1 week of the submission date. If there are any delays to this, an announcement will be posted to Canvas.

Course Description

This is the first a two-semester sequence of general chemistry for science majors, intended to introduce you to the foundations of chemistry. The material is presented in what’s referred to as an atoms first approach, which means that we begin by talking about the parts of the atom, then how they join together to create molecules, then what kind of reactions the molecules can go through. It is a gradual building up of the information that you need to understand the next topic, hopefully told in a coherent story. We approach problems in both a qualitative and quantitative manner, so math skills (basic arithmetic, algebra, and calculator skills) are a must!

Course Structure

This course is mostly online. Each week, you will have a module in Canvas to work through. There are reading assignments, pages of material (that can include videos, problems to solve, and/or simulations), and a weekly quiz covering the material in that module. There are generally three material pages per module, intended to be viewed Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, to give you time to learn the material.

We also will have a weekly Zoom meeting, Wednesdays at 2:00 pm. This is required, but if you are unable to attend for whatever reason, please email me and let me know!

Most of our interactions will take place through Canvas, though. There is a Discussion Board for questions, either specific to each chapter or in general.

Course Prerequisites or Other Restrictions

Pre-reqs: C or better in MATH 1100 or equivalent course
Co-Reqs: While it is not required, it is strongly encouraged to enroll in CHEM 1430 (General Chemistry I lab). If you are not required to take the lab or you otherwise cannot do so this semester, you will be just fine.

Course Objectives

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. Explain atomic structure and behavior on both the microscale and macroscale.
2. Use atomic-level behavior to predict and explain macroscopic behavior.
3. Use molecular structure to predict and explain reactions.
4. Apply tools and skills in solving chemical problems.
5. Critically assess chemical problems.

Materials

- *Chemistry, Atoms First, 4th Ed.* Julia Burdge, Jason Overby. The electronic book is required, as you will have reading assignments out of the text to supplement the material provided in Canvas. This can be bought through an access code at the UNT Bookstore.
  - If for some reason you are unable to immediately purchase the access code, please let me know immediately!
- A scientific calculator

Teaching Philosophy

I believe that everyone can “do” chemistry, regardless of what you may have heard before. I find chemistry endlessly interesting and my goal in this course is to introduce you to some of that fascination. I want you to learn the foundations of chemistry that you will carry with you through other chemistry courses, as well as into your everyday life. I have tried to ensure that the material in this course is presented in several different ways, from readings to videos to interactive simulations. I want you to think about the material and learn how to apply the knowledge you are gaining to solve chemical problems. I do not want you to simply memorize and regurgitate information on exams.

I will do my best to present the material in this class to you in a way that helps you understanding the common threads linking it all together. I promise that I will do my best to help you be successful in this course. I will be available to you for questions, I will provide timely feedback on your work, and I will make sure that this course is an open, safe, and inviting place to learn chemistry – even though we are doing it from a distance.

In return, I expect that you will do your best to actually learn this material – that you will forget about earning a certain number of points and focus on the material itself. I expect you to ask for help when you need it. I expect you to help others by engaging with the class, through recitation, discussion boards, and any other routes possible. I expect you to act with integrity at all times.

Ultimately, you are responsible for your own learning. I can present the material and give you access to many different resources, but you have to put the time into it to learn it. No one can do that for you.

Technical Requirements & Skills

Minimum Technology Requirements

- Computer
• Reliable internet access
• Speakers
• Microphone
• Plug-ins
• Microsoft Office Suite
• Canvas Technical Requirements (https://clear.unt.edu/supported-technologies/canvas/requirements)
• Connect technical requirements (https://createwp.customer.mheducation.com/wordpress-mu/success-academy/connects-system-requirements/)

Computer Skills & Digital Literacy
• Using Canvas
• Using email with attachments
• Downloading and installing software
• Using the homework system required for the course (Connect) – a tutorial will be provided

Rules of Engagement
Rules of engagement refer to the way students are expected to interact with each other and with their instructors online. Here are some general guidelines:
• Treat your instructor and classmates with respect in email or any other communication.
• Always use your professors’ proper title: Dr. or Prof., or if in doubt use Mr. or Ms.
• Unless specifically invited, don’t refer to your instructor by first name.
• Use clear and concise language.
• Remember that all college level communication should have correct spelling and grammar (this includes discussion boards).
• Avoid slang terms such as “wassup?” and texting abbreviations such as “u” instead of “you.”
• Use standard fonts such as Arial, Calibri or Times new Roman and use a size 10 or 12 point font
• Avoid using the caps lock feature AS IT CAN BE INTERPRETTED AS YELLING.
• Be cautious when using humor or sarcasm as tone is sometimes lost in an email or discussion post and your message might be taken seriously or sound offensive.
• Be careful with personal information (both yours and other’s).
• Do not send confidential information via e-mail

See these Engagement Guidelines (https://clear.unt.edu/online-communication-tips) for more information.

Success in an Online Course
While the online classroom shares many similarities with the face-to-face classroom, success in online education requires certain skills and expectations that students may not be aware of. Time management is essential. I have due dates listed for everything already in an attempt to help you stay on top of things, but you must check in to the Canvas page at least every other day (although every day is preferable). Remember that in a traditional face-to-face course, it is recommended that you spend two hours outside of class for every hour spent in class, reviewing material, reading, homework, rewriting your notes, etc. This requirement does not change just because the mode of delivery has changed.

I suggest you write yourself a weekly schedule for all of your classes, including required face-to-face time, study time, any upcoming assignments, and things of that nature. Do not forget to schedule yourself time to eat, sleep, and do whatever else you need to stay healthy!
If this is your first time completing a course online, consider visiting the following page, “How to Succeed as an Online Student” (https://clear.unt.edu/teaching-resources/online-teaching/succeed-online).

Getting Help

Technical Assistance

Part of working in the online environment involves dealing with the inconveniences and frustration that can arise when technology breaks down or does not perform as expected. Here at UNT we have a Student Help Desk that you can contact for help with Canvas or other technology issues.

UIT Help Desk: http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/index.htm
Email: helpdesk@unt.edu
Phone: 940-565-2324
In Person: Sage Hall, Room 130
Walk-In Availability: 8am-9pm
Telephone Availability:
  • Sunday: noon-midnight
  • Monday-Thursday: 8am-midnight
  • Friday: 8am-8pm
  • Saturday: 9am-5pm
Laptop Checkout: 8am-7pm

For additional support, visit Canvas Technical Help (https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10554-4212710328)

Student Support Services

UNT provides mental health resources to students to help ensure there are numerous outlets to turn to that wholeheartedly care for and are there for students in need, regardless of the nature of an issue or its severity. Listed below are several resources on campus that can support your academic success and mental well-being:

  • Student Health and Wellness Center (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center)
  • Counseling and Testing Services (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services)
  • UNT Care Team (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care)
  • UNT Psychiatric Services (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center/services/psychiatry)
  • Individual Counseling (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services/services/individual-counseling)

Other student support services offered by UNT include

  • Registrar (https://registrar.unt.edu/registration)
  • Financial Aid (https://financialaid.unt.edu/)
  • Student Legal Services (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-legal-services)
  • Career Center (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/career-center)
  • Multicultural Center (https://edo.unt.edu/multicultural-center)
  • Counseling and Testing Services (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services)
  • Pride Alliance (https://edo.unt.edu/pridealliance)
- UNT Food Pantry (https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources/food-pantry)

Academic Support Services
- Academic Resource Center (https://clear.unt.edu/canvas/student-resources)
- Academic Success Center (https://success.unt.edu/asc)
- UNT Libraries (https://library.unt.edu/)
- Writing Lab (http://writingcenter.unt.edu/)
- MathLab (https://math.unt.edu/mathlab)
- Chemistry Resource Center (CRC) (https://chemistry.unt.edu/undergraduate-program/instructional-resources)

Course Requirements and Calendar

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**Grading**

This course will be graded on the following scale:

A = > 89.5% possible points

B = 89.4% - 79.5% possible points

C = 79.4% - 69.5% possible points

D = 69.4% - 59.5% possible points

F = < 59.4% possible points

**Activities**

- Homework (through Connect) - 100 points total, all homework will be averaged together, lowest 2 will be dropped; 11% of overall grade
- Reading Assignments (through Connect) - 100 points total, all reading will be averaged together, lowest 5 will be dropped; 11% of overall grade
- Participation - attendance and participation at recitation, lowest 2 will be dropped; 11% of overall grade
Assessments

- 10 weekly quizzes (online through Canvas) - 100 points total, all quiz grades will be averaged together, lowest 2 will be dropped; 11% of overall grade
- 4 mid-term exams (in-person, delivered through Canvas) - 100 points each (the lowest one will be dropped), 300 points total, 34% of overall grade
- 1 cumulative final exam (online, through Canvas) - 200 points, 22% of overall grade

Course Evaluation

Student Perceptions of Teaching (SPOT) is the student evaluation system for UNT and allows students the ability to confidentially provide constructive feedback to their instructor and department to improve the quality of student experiences in the course. **The SPOT evaluations will be available November 16 – December 3, 2020.**

Course Policies

**Attendance Policy**

Attendance at the weekly recitation meeting is a required part of this course. These are the only required meeting time for this course. If for some reason, you are not able to attend recitation, please let the instructor or TA know as soon as possible for arrangements to be made.

**COVID-19 Impact on Attendance**

While attendance is expected as outlined above, it is important for all of us to be mindful of the health and safety of everyone in our community, especially given concerns about COVID-19. Please contact me if you are unable to attend class because you are ill, or unable to attend class due to a related issue regarding COVID-19. It is important that you communicate with me prior to being absent so I may make a decision about accommodating your request to be excused from class.

If you are experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19 ([https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html)) please seek medical attention from the Student Health and Wellness Center (940-565-2333 or askSHWC@unt.edu) or your health care provider PRIOR to coming to campus. UNT also requires you to contact the UNT COVID Hotline at 844-366-5892 or COVID@unt.edu for guidance on actions to take due to symptoms, pending or positive test results, or potential exposure. While attendance is an important part of succeeding in this class, your own health, and those of others in the community, is more important.

**Assignment Policy**

The due dates can be seen through the Syllabus tab in Canvas. The due dates for reading assignments and homework can also be found through the McGraw-Hill Connect page (links found in Canvas). If due dates are changed, the class will be notified through an announcement in Canvas.

The University is committed to providing a reliable online course system to all users. However, in the event of any unexpected server outage or any unusual technical difficulty which prevents students from completing a time sensitive assessment activity, the instructor will extend the time windows and provide an appropriate accommodation based on the situation. Students should immediately report any problems to the instructor and contact the UNT Student Help Desk: helpdesk@unt.edu or 940.565.2324 and obtain a ticket number. The instructor and the UNT Student Help Desk will work with the student to resolve any issues at the earliest possible time.
Examination Policy

All assessments (quizzes and exams) in this course are closed notes. This means that no additional resources may be used, whether provided by the instructor or TA through Canvas, or found by the student on the internet. No assessment may be discussed with any person, regardless of if they are registered for this course or not.

All quizzes and exams will be open on the assigned day between the hours of 8:00am and 11:59pm. You must use Respondus Lockdown Browser during the assessment, so please plan accordingly to ensure that it works. You should begin the assessment with enough to finish, taking into account any possibility of technical difficulties. If for some reason you should lose internet access or otherwise be unable to finish the assessment once you have begun it, take a picture if you can (screenshot, etc) including a timestamp, and email me or the TA as soon as you can, explaining the situation. Retests may be given on a case-by-case basis, depending on the situation.

The dates of all of the quizzes and tests are already posted in Canvas. Please make note of them and plan accordingly. Make-ups will only be made in the event of documented university-excused absences. The instructor must be notified within 48 hours of the missed assignment and provided documentation. Prior notice, if possible, is best.

The exam dates are as follows:

- Monday, February 1st, between 8am and 11:59pm
- Monday, March 1st, between 8am and 11:59pm
- Monday, March 22nd, between 8am and 11:59pm
- Monday, April 12th, between 8am and 11:59pm

Instructor Responsibilities and Feedback

I will do my best to present the material in this class to you in a way that helps you understanding the common threads linking it all together. I promise that I will do my best to help you be successful in this course. I will be available to you for questions, I will provide timely feedback on your work, and I will make sure that this course is an open, safe, and inviting place to learn chemistry – even though we are doing it from a distance.

Feedback on performance can be provided at any time through office hours, or a scheduled appointment outside of posted office hours. In the event that assignments are hand graded, the grades will be uploaded to Canvas within a week of the due date.

Late Work

Late work will not be accepted in this course, with the exception of documented university-excused absences. The instructor must be notified within 48 hours of the missed assignment and provided documentation. Prior notice, if possible, is best.

Attendance Policy

Attendance at the weekly Zoom recitation is required. The remainder of the course is asynchronous. If for some reason you will be absent from recitation, please notify the instructor as soon as you know.

Syllabus Change Policy

In the event that any aspect of this course changes, the updated syllabus will be posted in Canvas. In addition, an announcement will be posted on Canvas and if possible, an announcement made verbally during the weekly Zoom meeting.
UNT Policies

Academic Integrity Policy
Academic Integrity Standards and Consequences. According to UNT Policy 06.003, Student Academic Integrity, academic dishonesty occurs when students engage in behaviors including, but not limited to cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, forgery, plagiarism, and sabotage. A finding of academic dishonesty may result in a range of academic penalties or sanctions ranging from admonition to expulsion from the University. [Insert specific sanction or academic penalty for specific academic integrity violation.]

ADA Policy
The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking reasonable accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Access (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with a reasonable accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request reasonable accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of reasonable accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of reasonable accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of reasonable accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information, refer to the Office of Disability Access website at http://www.unt.edu/oda. You may also contact ODA by phone at (940) 565-4323.

Emergency Notification & Procedures
UNT uses a system called Eagle Alert to quickly notify students with critical information in the event of an emergency (i.e., severe weather, campus closing, and health and public safety emergencies like chemical spills, fires, or violence). In the event of a university closure, please refer to Blackboard for contingency plans for covering course materials.

Retention of Student Records
Student records pertaining to this course are maintained in a secure location by the instructor of record. All records such as exams, answer sheets (with keys), and written papers submitted during the duration of the course are kept for at least one calendar year after course completion. Course work completed via the Blackboard online system, including grading information and comments, is also stored in a safe electronic environment for one year. Students have the right to view their individual record; however, information about student’s records will not be divulged to other individuals without proper written consent. Students are encouraged to review the Public Information Policy and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) laws and the University’s policy. See UNT Policy 10.10, Records Management and Retention for additional information.

Acceptable Student Behavior
Student behavior that interferes with an instructor’s ability to conduct a class or other students’ opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The University's expectations for student conduct apply to all
instructional forums, including University and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. Visit UNT’s Code of Student Conduct (https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct) to learn more.

Access to Information - Eagle Connect
Students’ access point for business and academic services at UNT is located at: my.unt.edu. All official communication from the University will be delivered to a student’s Eagle Connect account. For more information, please visit the website that explains Eagle Connect and how to forward e-mail Eagle Connect (https://it.unt.edu/eagleconnect).

Student Evaluation Administration Dates
Student feedback is important and an essential part of participation in this course. The student evaluation of instruction is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. The survey will be made available during weeks 13, 14 and 15 [insert administration dates] of the long semesters to provide students with an opportunity to evaluate how this course is taught. Students will receive an email from "UNT SPOT Course Evaluations via IASystem Notification" (no-reply@iasystem.org) with the survey link. Students should look for the email in their UNT email inbox. Simply click on the link and complete the survey. Once students complete the survey they will receive a confirmation email that the survey has been submitted. For additional information, please visit the SPOT website (http://spot.unt.edu/) or email spot@unt.edu.

Sexual Assault Prevention
UNT is committed to providing a safe learning environment free of all forms of sexual misconduct, including sexual harassment sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. Federal laws (Title IX and the Violence Against Women Act) and UNT policies prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, and therefore prohibit sexual misconduct. If you or someone you know is experiencing sexual harassment, relationship violence, stalking, and/or sexual assault, there are campus resources available to provide support and assistance. UNT’s Survivor Advocates can assist a student who has been impacted by violence by filing protective orders, completing crime victim’s compensation applications, contacting professors for absences related to an assault, working with housing to facilitate a room change where appropriate, and connecting students to other resources available both on and off campus. The Survivor Advocates can be reached at SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu or by calling the Dean of Students Office at 940-565- 2648. Additionally, alleged sexual misconduct can be non-confidentially reported to the Title IX Coordinator at oeo@unt.edu or at (940) 565 2759.

Important Notice for F-1 Students taking Distance Education Courses

Federal Regulation
To read detailed Immigration and Customs Enforcement regulations for F-1 students taking online courses, please go to the Electronic Code of Federal Regulations website (http://www.ecfr.gov/). The specific portion concerning distance education courses is located at Title 8 CFR 214.2 Paragraph (f)(6)(i)(G).

The paragraph reads:

(G) For F-1 students enrolled in classes for credit or classroom hours, no more than the equivalent of one class or three credits per session, term, semester, trimester, or quarter may be counted toward the full course of study requirement if the class is taken on-line or through distance education and does not require the student's physical attendance for classes, examination or other purposes integral to completion of the class. An on-line or distance education course is a course that is offered principally through the use of television, audio, or computer transmission including open broadcast, closed circuit,
cable, microwave, or satellite, audio conferencing, or computer conferencing. If the F-1 student's course of study is in a language study program, no on-line or distance education classes may be considered to count toward a student's full course of study requirement.

**University of North Texas Compliance**

To comply with immigration regulations, an F-1 visa holder within the United States may need to engage in an on-campus experiential component for this course. This component (which must be approved in advance by the instructor) can include activities such as taking an on-campus exam, participating in an on-campus lecture or lab activity, or other on-campus experience integral to the completion of this course.

If such an on-campus activity is required, it is the student’s responsibility to do the following:

1. Submit a written request to the instructor for an on-campus experiential component within one week of the start of the course.
2. Ensure that the activity on campus takes place and the instructor documents it in writing with a notice sent to the International Student and Scholar Services Office. ISSS has a form available that you may use for this purpose.

Because the decision may have serious immigration consequences, if an F-1 student is unsure about his or her need to participate in an on-campus experiential component for this course, s/he should contact the UNT International Student and Scholar Services Office (telephone 940-565-2195 or email internationaladvising@unt.edu) to get clarification before the one-week deadline.

**Student Verification**

UNT takes measures to protect the integrity of educational credentials awarded to students enrolled in distance education courses by verifying student identity, protecting student privacy, and notifying students of any special meeting times/locations or additional charges associated with student identity verification in distance education courses.

See [UNT Policy 07-002 Student Identity Verification, Privacy, and Notification and Distance Education Courses](https://policy.unt.edu/policy/07-002).

**Use of Student Work**

A student owns the copyright for all work (e.g. software, photographs, reports, presentations, and email postings) he or she creates within a class and the University is not entitled to use any student work without the student’s permission unless all of the following criteria are met:

- The work is used only once.
- The work is not used in its entirety.
- Use of the work does not affect any potential profits from the work.
- The student is not identified.
- The work is identified as student work.

If the use of the work does not meet all of the above criteria, then the University office or department using the work must obtain the student’s written permission.

Download the UNT System Permission, Waiver and Release Form
Transmission and Recording of Student Images in Electronically-Delivered Courses

1. No permission is needed from a student for his or her image or voice to be transmitted live via videoconference or streaming media, but all students should be informed when courses are to be conducted using either method of delivery.

2. In the event an instructor records student presentations, he or she must obtain permission from the student using a signed release in order to use the recording for future classes in accordance with the Use of Student-Created Work guidelines above.

3. Instructors who video-record their class lectures with the intention of re-using some or all of recordings for future class offerings must notify students on the course syllabus if students' images may appear on video. Instructors are also advised to provide accommodation for students who do not wish to appear in class recordings.

   Example: This course employs lecture capture technology to record class sessions. Students may occasionally appear on video. The lecture recordings will be available to you for study purposes and may also be reused in future course offerings.

No notification is needed if only audio and slide capture is used or if the video only records the instructor's image. However, the instructor is encouraged to let students know the recordings will be available to them for study purposes.