

# Chemistry 1 Syllabus

## Course Information

**Course Name:** Chemistry 1

**Syllabus URL:** <http://www.mrbigler.com/Chemistry-1/syllabus-Chemistry-1.PDF>

**LPS Course Number:** 412

**School Code:** 221265

**Credits:** 6 credits

**Room:** 304

**School:** Lynn English High School, Lynn, MA

**Teacher:** Mr. Jeffrey Bigler

**Email:** [MrBigler@MrBigler.com](mailto:MrBigler@MrBigler.com) or [BiglerJ@LynnSchools.org](mailto:BiglerJ@LynnSchools.org)

**Afternoon Back:** officially Wednesday, but also most Mondays, Thursdays, & Fridays

**Prerequisites:** passed Biology MCAS **and** C or better in Biology **and** B- or better in Algebra 1.

**Textbook:** *Chemistry 1 Class Notes*, by Mr. Bigler. (Self-published through CreateSpace.com). Available to students for free download (PDF) and in print (softcover) at cost (about \$10).



**Supplemental Textbook:** *Modern Chemistry*, by Raymond E. Davis, H. Clark Metcalfe, John E. Williams and Joseph E. Castka. (Holt, Rinehart and Winston: 2002). Available in hardcover upon request.

**Required Materials:** *Class Notes* (electronic and/or print copy), folder or binder (to keep worksheets and handouts), scientific calculator (must have exponents and scientific notation).

## Classroom Expectations

Detailed policies & procedures are described in a separate document.

In summary:

1. Maintain a positive attitude, with ongoing effort and willingness to be proactive about getting extra help when needed.
2. Complete all assignments in the time allotted, unless prior arrangements have been made. Students are encouraged to collaborate on homework, but it is your responsibility to make sure that you are ultimately capable of solving each of the problems on your own and without assistance.
3. Be *present* during class, both mentally and physically. Arrive on time. Maintain focus and effort. Contribute to discussions. Bring completed assignments, notes, calculator & writing implements to class.
4. If you are struggling, come in for extra help after school. Mr. Bigler's official afternoon back is Wednesday. However, he is usually available after school every afternoon except for Tuesdays (which is when the Science Team meets), unless his presence is required at an after-school meeting. (Please confirm his availability during the school day to make sure. Faculty meetings are on the first Wednesday of every month; science department meetings are usually on the second Thursday of every month.)
5. Do your own work on tests and quizzes. Cheating, copying or plagiarism will result in a zero and notification of parent or guardian. More importantly, cheating will not help you learn anything or pass your tests.
6. Treat all staff, students, equipment and furniture appropriately and respectfully.

7. Whether or not you are asked to sign a lab safety contract, you are required to follow all instructions and to understand and follow all necessary safety precautions (which will be communicated to you) for every experiment or activity. Safety violations may result in a disciplinary referral, loss of the privilege of participating in the lab or activity (which may result in a failing grade) and/or payment of restitution for damaged equipment.
8. Adhere to all school rules, policies and procedures, as published in the student handbook.

## Grades

Your grade is calculated by the *eSchool Plus* grading system (HAC), based on the number of points for each item:

- tests, formal lab reports, and major projects: 100 points
- quizzes, lab write-ups, and minor projects: 50 points
- participation in lab experiments and activities: 25 points
- homework and classwork assignments: 5 points
- mid-term and final exams: 150 points

Mr. Bigler is responsible for entering grades and weights into *eSchool Plus*, but the grades themselves are calculated by *eSchool Plus*. You are responsible for monitoring your grades through the Home Access Center (HAC).

If you believe that your grade has been calculated incorrectly, it is your responsibility to bring it to my attention. If this happens, I will check the calculation and adjust your grade if appropriate.

## Homework

Homework is due at the beginning of class and will be graded ✓+ (5 points), ✓ (4 points), or ✓- (3 points), based on how much of the homework you attempted (with work shown). Late work is worth 3 points, provided that it is 100% complete, has correct answers and all work shown, and is turned in *before* the unit test on the topic; late work turned in after the test is worth 2 points. Students who are in the building at any time during the school day (even if they are on a field trip during chemistry class) are expected to turn in assignments on the due date.

## Attendance & Make-Up Work

Absent students are expected to obtain and complete any assignments that they missed. Absent students are also expected to schedule make-up tests with Mr. Bigler within one week, unless other arrangements are made on the day the student returns to school. As dictated by LPS policy, students who are absent from school seven or more times during a quarter (as calculated by TAC) receive a failing grade for the quarter in all classes.

## Note to Parents

Your child is in high school, and personal responsibility is one of the skills that high school teaches students, to help prepare them for the workplace or college. Therefore, students are expected to keep track of assignments, do them and turn them in, and ask for help whenever they need it. I will encourage your child to do all of these things, and I will try to notice and offer help when your child needs it. I am happy to answer any questions or address any concerns that you may have—email them to me at [BiglerJ@LynnSchools.org](mailto:BiglerJ@LynnSchools.org). However, unless either your child has an accommodation that requires specific parental involvement, or I feel that there is an urgent matter that needs to be brought to your attention, I will communicate directly with your child on matters regarding his/her academic success.