



Chemistry Fall Semester – Syllabus 2018-2019

The
FACING
HISTORY
School

525 West 50th Street
New York, NY 10019
212.757.2680
212-757-2156 (fax)
fhs@fhschool.org
www.fhschool.org

Keisha's email: keisha@facinghistoryschool.org

Luis's email: luis@facinghistoryschool.org

School website: www.facinghistoryschool.org

Grade website: www.Pupilpath.com

Course Description:

Chemistry is everywhere! In fact, it would be a challenge to think of something in our universe that does not involve chemistry. Even our thoughts and emotions can be explained via chemistry. Chemistry is central to all branches of science including biology, medicine, environmental sciences, physics, astronomy, botany, biochemistry and geology. A university degree in chemistry can be a stepping stone to becoming anything from a medical doctor to a teacher.

As the course title suggests, we will be investigating chemical concepts and principles from an inquiry-based perspective. This means that students will investigate natural and chemical phenomena by asking questions and employing critical thinking. Please keep one thing in mind throughout this course – *answers themselves are not as important as the thought process you use to get there.*

Course Objectives:

One of the central objectives of this class is to provide students with a way of investigating the natural world. You will be learning traditional chemical concepts and principles in this class through a non-traditional method. In this course, students will be expected to work as scientists do in professional and university settings. This means that you will observe phenomena, ask questions, form hypotheses, formulate ways of testing those hypotheses, construct new knowledge, discuss and reflect on those discoveries and apply those findings to your lives.

Assessments:

Over the course of the semester, students will be completing three units in which the students will broaden their knowledge of the principles of chemistry. Each unit progresses from basic C layer knowledge to applications in the B layer and finally developing and justifying opinions in the A layer. **Most Assignments** will be posted on **google classroom** which will require internet access. This is a portfolio class, which means students will present their learning journey through portfolio presentations in June. Students will also be required to verbally answer content questions related to the chemistry material and skills that they have learned.

Course of Study:

Unit Name	Essential Question	Major Assessments
Observations and Inferences	Why is it important to question scientific claims?	Observation Project
Forensics	How can I make a logical conclusion through deductive reasoning?	Blood Splatter Project
The Nature of Matter	Why does matter matter?	Salt Matter Project

Required Class Materials. You are expected to purchase and bring these materials to class no later than Monday, September 17th.

- One 3-hole binder (or spiral notebook) and one 2-pocket folder
 - Loose-leaf paper
 - Black or blue pens (whatever you prefer) – no colored pens
 - Pencils and pencil sharpener

Classroom Expectations

I expect you to be:

Respectful! - to your classmates, teachers and the classroom. Listen when others are speaking and use appropriate language.

Responsible! -care for your supplies and projects; and exhibit appropriate behavior. Arrive on time to class.

Receptive! - Listen to directions, suggestions, and learning (mini-lesson/video...)

Ready! -to work, do your best, and want to succeed. Come to class prepared with all required materials.

If you break a classroom rule, here is the order of what will happen:

1. Verbal Warning (can happen publicly or one-on-one)
2. Final Warning. One-on-one conversation with teacher(s) (either quietly in the classroom or out in the hallway)
3. Call home and/or sent to Courtney or admin office.

Cell Phones

Schoolwide Policy: Cell phones are allowed in the school building but must be locked in your lockers. If you have your cell phone out during class, **it will be taken EVERY TIME. You will not get a warning. Keisha and Luis will ask for your cell phone and depending on how you respond and react depends on what will happen with your cell phone:**

We will either keep it until:

a.) The end of the class period then give it back to you before you leave

OR

b.) Admin or Courtney will be called to the room to take the phone/remove you from the room, and you will not receive it till the end of the day or your parents will have to come to school to pick it up.

Note: The school will not be responsible for any damaged, lost or stolen phones.

Uniform (Hats, hoodies, and collared shirts, especially)

You are expected to follow the school uniform policy in this class.

You must **remove hats** and **hoodies** before entering the classroom.

If your shirt or pants are out of uniform, (for example, your shirt does not have a collar), you will be sent to the admin offices to receive an appropriate uniform then return to class in appropriate uniform.

Headphones

Headphones should not be visible on your body. Headphones are not allowed in your ears, draped around your ears, and all the other possible ways to wear headphones. Sometimes you'll be allowed to work with headphones, but you will be given permission to do so.

If your headphones are out, Keisha or Luis will ask for you to put them away. If we see it again, then we will keep it until the end of the class period then give it back to you before you leave

Moving around the classroom

You are not glued to your chair; you are free to move about the classroom to grab a tissue, stretch, etc. as long as your moving does not disrupt other students, Keisha or Luis. If it does disrupt someone or us, we will ask you to return to your seat immediately.

Hallway Passes

If you come to class late, have a pass. Do not say, "The teacher did not give me a pass." It is your responsibility to ask the adult for a pass in order to enter our room late. If you do not have a pass, you will be marked as an unexcused tardy.

If you leave the classroom during class time, you will get a pass. If we forget to give you a pass, it is your responsibility to ask for one.

Late to Class

If you are with an adult and going to be late to class, ensure the adult writes you a pass. If you are just late for no good reason, please come in, join us, and get to work. We will discuss it afterwards. Don't waste more learning time racing around the school trying to find some adult to write you a pass.

Absent to Class

Everyone must check google classroom daily.

Planned Absence = you know you are going to be absent (e.g. doctor's appointment)

For a planned absence, come inform Luis and Keisha that you will be out in order for them to give you your missing work and fill you in on what you'll miss, so you do not fall behind!

Unplanned Absence = you are absent but did not anticipate or expect it (e.g. illness)

For an unplanned absence, like you wake up sick, feel free to email Keisha or Luis, so they know you will be out and can organize your work for when you return! This is not required but is a considerate, professional habit to get used to.

Regardless if your absence is planned or unplanned, **IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to get and do the work you missed that day in order to catch up.** Additionally, if you want one-on-one tutoring, teaching, etc. due to an absence, please set up an appointment with Keisha or Luis for before school, during lunch, or after school.

Note: Some assignments like labs cannot be made up, even if it is an excused absence.

Homework

- Homework is due the day after it is assigned, unless otherwise indicated.
- Any homework we assign is usually so you are prepared for the following class. We try to only give homework when it is absolutely necessary.
- Homework will always be checked (typically in the beginning of class) either for completion or accuracy.

Harmful, Hurtful, Offensive Language

If you think words have been used to harm, hurt, or offend someone, please do not let it go. Do something:

a.) talk to Keisha or Luis, so they can address it.

b.) respectfully address it in the moment→ Do not combat harmful, hurtful, or offensive language with MORE harmful, hurtful, and offensive language.

If we think a word is being used to harm, hurt, or offend, we will talk to the person. As members of this class, we will work really hard to not harm, hurt or offend other with our words and language choice because you all have a right to a safe and welcoming classroom environment.

We know it is not feasible to create a space where harmful, hurtful, offensive words and language are not used because we are all human and make mistakes. However, we aim to create a classroom where we all work tirelessly and to the best of our ability to not harm, hurt, or offend others. If/when we do offend someone, we work to remedy that or if we are offended, we work to communicate with the person, who offended us, about the harmful, hurtful, or offensive language used in order for it to, hopefully, not be used again.

Food and Drinks

You cannot eat in the classroom.

Water is allowed, but no other beverage. Water must be in the original bottle.

Bathroom/Water Fountain Policy School-wide Policy: No students can use the bathroom during the first 10 minutes of class or last 10 minutes of class.

Nature calls! Only one person is allowed to be out of the classroom at a time. You must ask Luis or Keisha for permission to go to the bathroom, and you must take the official bathroom pass. That being said, you should never walk out of the classroom without asking or talking to Keisha or Luis first.

Gradebook

Teacher gradebook will be updated each week on Tuesdays. We will probably do it more than that but, at minimum, the gradebook is updated once a week.

The gradebook is divided into three sections:

- Learning Activities

roughly 60 to 80 grades per semester

- Formative Assessments

at least 8-10 per semester

- Summative Assessments

at least 4-6 per semester

Office Hours

Luis: Thursdays from 3:00 p.m-3:30 p.m

Keisha: Fridays from 8.00 am-8.30am, **Room 139**

OR By appointment. By appointment means you come to us, we set up an agreed upon time to meet, and then you come in and we meet.

Student Agreement and Parent/Guardian Agreement (please detach and return completely filled out. You will receive a homework grade)

I have read and understood the syllabus, and I agree to follow class rules to make this a productive and academically successful year in this class.

Student Name _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

I have read and understood the syllabus. I agree to cooperate with my child and the teacher in order to promote productive behaviors and academic success for my child in this class.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Phone number _____ Email: _____