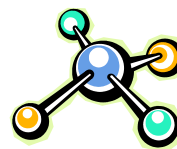


Chemistry: Parkview High School

Dr. Michael Tolmich

Michael_Tolmich@gwinnett.k12.ga.us

Office Hours (Room 12.128): 6:45am – 7:15am daily (or by appointment)



The most important discovery made by scientists was science itself.

-Jacob Bronowski

Philosopher of Science and a Teacher

Objective

What exactly is science? Why does helium float and iron sink? Why do we put chlorine in pools and not mercury? These, and many other questions, are what we will attempt to discover this year in Chemistry.

Materials

A few items will be necessary for us to be successful. These are:

- A 3-ring Binder (minimum of 1") **EXCLUSIVELY FOR CHEMISTRY**
- Pens (blue or black ink) and Pencils (#2)
- Loose-leaf notebook paper
- Composition book/spiral notebook with graph paper
- Scientific Calculator

Things such as poster board and construction paper will be utilized on an as needed basis and will be the responsibility of the student. The textbook, *Chemistry: Matter and Change*, published by Glencoe, will serve as one of the resources for our studies. The Internet, trade books, magazines, and newspapers are other resources that will be used. However, the most useful resource we have is each other and our life experiences.

Parent Involvement

Parent involvement in a child's academic career may be the difference between a student being successful or not. For this simple fact, I would like for parents to become involved in the student's educational experience. You are welcome to meet with me to discuss the academic progress of your child. Please use one of the methods below to contact me to schedule an appointment.

- **E-mail (preferred method):** Please e-mail Dr. Tolmich with your e-mail address (at the top of the syllabus), so that he can set up a parent e-mail list to keep you updated on issues and events.
- **Telephone:** The science department phone number is 770-806-3815. You can simply leave a message on the answering machine, and I will get back to you as soon as possible, but please try to use e-mail for a quicker response.

Topics of Study

We could literally spend years and years of intensive study and still not cover everything chemistry has to offer. This being the case, we will attempt to discuss and discover as much as possible, and I can promise that the topics covered during this school year will allow us to open our minds to the wonders of science. Some of the topics we will discuss are (per the AKS and Georgia Performance Standards):

A - Characteristics of Science

- design and conduct scientific investigations
- apply standard safety practices for all classroom laboratory and field investigations use technology to collect, observe, measure and manipulate data and findings
- use valid critical assumptions to draw conclusions
- apply computation and estimation skills necessary for analyzing data and developing conclusions
- communicate scientific investigations clearly
- read scientific materials to establish context for subject matter, develop vocabulary and to be aware of current research

B - Academic Knowledge

- analyze the nature of matter and its classifications
- evaluate how the Law of Conservation of Matter is used to determine chemical composition in compounds and chemical reactions
- use the modern atomic theory to explain the characteristics of atoms
- use the organization of the periodic table of elements to predict the properties of elements
- predict how various factors affect the rate of a chemical reaction
- evaluate the motion and behavior of atoms and molecules in chemical and physical processes
- analyze properties that describe solutions and the behavior of acids and bases
- Stoichiometry
- Solutions
- Acids/Bases
- Kinetics
- Organic Chemistry
- Gases

Policies

Failure to follow any of these policies will result in action being taken, such as warnings, parent contacts, detentions, and administrative referrals.

1. All policies set forth by Parkview and Gwinnett County will be followed, including
 - Dress Code
 - Cheating/Academic Dishonesty
 - Absences
 - Tardies
2. It is the responsibility of the student to make-up any missed work due to an excused absence. You should come by the next day to see what you missed.
3. There will be no food or drink in the classroom due to safety issues. Bottled water can be brought in but it must stay out of the lab area.

Assessment

Your grade for this course will follow the county scale:

90 +	A
80-89	B
74-79	C
70-73	D
< 70	F

You will be assessed in numerous ways. Tests, labs, homework, quizzes, journals, notebooks, portfolios, and projects are some of these. The Gateway Assessment consists of AKS from the required ninth and tenth grade courses in science, social studies and language arts. Specifically, students will be responsible for the AKS in Biology, Chemistry, World History, and ninth and tenth grade Language Arts. The exam will be administered in the spring of the tenth grade year.

Grade Breakdown

	Chemistry
Major Grades (Tests/Projects)	35%
Daily Work/Quizzes	15%
Labs	25%
Midterm Benchmark Exam	5%
Performance Exam	5%
Final Exam	15%
Total	100%

Dr. Tolmich reserves the right to change or adjust these policies as deemed necessary.