CHEMISTRY

# MR. VERBY

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ROOM 234

**Essential Questions** What is the Nature of Matter? How does Matter change?

## Course Overview

This course introduces important concepts of chemistry while applying these concepts to the students’ everyday

lives and experiences. It will also help students use principles of chemistry to think more intelligently about current issues they will encounter involving science and technology.  Students will develop a lifelong awareness of the potential and the limitations of science and technology.  Topics addressed include scientific measurement, atomic structure, the periodic table, chemical formula writing, chemical reactions, states of matter, chemical bonding, thermochemistry, acids and bases, and nuclear chemistry. Activities will include reading, writing, discussion, laboratory activities, laboratory reports, and student projects. Students will frequently work together in teams. Basic algebra skills are required.Critical thinking (the ability to carry out systematic thought processes in making decisions and solving problems), inquiry (solving problems through scientific investigation), science ethics, and the nature of science are stressed in this class.

## Textbooks and Materials Needed

1. Textbook: Glencoe *Chemistry:Matter and Change* published by McGraw-Hill
2. A binder or folder to organize classroom materials.
3. Writing utensils
4. Scientific electronic calculator (capable of scientific notation and logarithms)

## Course Outline

The following is a brief outline for this course.

1. Chemistry Skills
2. Classification of Matter
3. Atoms
4. The Periodic Table and Periodic Trends
5. Compounds: Names and Formulas
6. Chemical Reactions
7. The Mole and Quantitative Applications
8. Stoichiometry
9. Gases and Their Behavior
10. Thermodynamics
11. Bonding
12. Organic Chemistry
13. Equilibrium, Acids, Bases, pH, Electrochemistry, Nuclear Chemistry

## Grading

**Grading Scale:** Each student's semester grade will be determined according to the following grading scale.

**A+: 97%-100% A: 93%-96%  A-: 90%-92%**

**B+: 87%-89% B: 83%-86%  B-: 80%-82%**

**C+: 77%-79% C: 73%-76%  C-: 70%-72%**

**D+: 67%-69% D: 63%-66%  D-: 60%-62%**

These grades will be based on scores received on homework, lab reports, projects, quizzes, tests, and the final exam. At the end of each grading period I reserve the right to lower the grading scale as I see fit.

*Grade Opportunities:*

Homework: All chapter homework will be due on the assigned due date.  Each student should maintain a calendar in order to keep up with assignment due dates.  Homework will be graded for completeness and accuracy, but keep in mind that the purpose of homework and other similar assignments is to practice for your test.  These assignments will constitute approximately 20% of each student's semester grade.

Assessments: An exam will be given at the end of each unit.

Quizzes, both announced and unannounced, will be given periodically.  Each semester will conclude with a cumulative final exam.  These quizzes and exams will constitute approximately 50% of each student's semester grade.

Lab Reports: One of the most important aspects of this course is the lab portion of the course. You will be expected to conduct laboratory experiments and/or activities and draw conclusions from that experience. You reports will be graded for format, organization, accuracy, neatness, but mostly on the correct summarization and conclusions of the activity. Lab reports will constitute approximately 30% of each student’s semester grade.

*Late Work:*  For each day an assignment is late you will lose 10% of the assignment's total point value, up to a maximum of 5 days at which time the maximum value for the assignment will be 50% of its original point total.  **No assignment will be accepted after the given unit is over.**

 *A final note on grading:* Please note that all assignments, tests, and lab reports will be graded for completeness and accuracy, but also for spelling, punctuation, grammar, and neatness. Complete assignments in pencil or black/blue ink. ***If it is worth doing it is worth doing correctly and completely.***

## Expectations

I believe that a classroom thrives when there is a mutual respect cultivated. You are in this class to learn and even if you will never take another science class you will have the exposure to information that will make you an informed citizen of the scientific community. Through science you will also develop higher-level thinking and inquiry skills that will make you a better all around student. The purpose of school is to learn. Anything that interferes with that purpose cannot and will not be tolerated in this class*.* **I will do everything that I can to help you to succeed, but ultimately your success or failure in this class is your responsibility. I will give you to the information and tools to succeed, but it is up to you to put in the work and effort to succeed.**

1. **Be Here**
2. No make-up work will be given for unexcused absences.
3. If you have an unexcused absence the day of a test or lab you will receive a 0%.
4. **Be on Time** The school tardy policy will be enforced.
5. **Be Prepared**
6. Bring required materials to class everyday: notebook, calculator, pencil, and/or pen.
7. You are dismissed from class only when I have dismissed you.
8. Work hard from the start to finish of each class.
9. **Be Respectful**
10. Pay attention to whomever is speaking.
11. Respect one another. Respect my position as your instructor.
12. If you have a problem with a classroom policy or a decision concerning grading please approach me before or after class.  Do not make a scene. Class time is not the time for confrontations. I will be fair; all I ask is that you approach me in a mature manner.
13. Express yourself in a positive manner and use appropriate language. No foul or abusive language.
14. There are no dumb questions: if you have a genuine question about anything ask me!
15. Do your best to maintain a positive attitude and a sense of humor.
16. Follow the teacher's instructions especially while in the laboratory.  Ignoring the teacher's guidelines will not only result in disciplinary consequences but can result in injury to yourself or others.
17. Be respectful of the classroom, the school’s property, and the individuals who keep this facility clean.
18. Do not use cell phones or music players at any time in class.
19. Do not eat in class.

**Assignment (5 points)**

1. Please make sure that your Clayton email account is active and that you check it often. We will be using Clayton email and Google docs on a regular basis.
2. Join Mr. Verby’s Google Classroom by logging onto **<https://classroom.google.com/>** and enter code: c9eolef
3. Email is my preferred way to communicate with your parents. Please have your mother or father email me with the email address they use on a regular basis. If your parent or guardian does NOT use email on a regular basis, please see the bottom of the page.

**Below are instructions your parents:**

My email address: dougverby@claytonschools.net

Subject Line: Please use your child’s first and last name as the subject line. This will give me the best email address for you. Since I never delete any email I receive, I can easily do a Google search in my Gmail using your child’s name to quickly find your email and contact you.

**Message:** In one sentence, please tell me ONE thing you are proud of regarding your child.

Please understand that I will most likely not respond to all 80+ emails, though I am sure I will be in touch with many if not all of you at some point. That being said, NEVER hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns!

Thank you parents! I hope to see you at open house on Tuesday August 23rd at 7:00!

**Students, in summary:**

1. **Register your Clayton email account.**
2. **Sign up for our Google Classroom site.**
3. **Have your parents email me, OR have them complete the form and submit Monday!**

Thank you,

 Mr. Verby

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If you do not regularly use email on a regular basis, please list the name and easiest contact number of the parent or guardian you would like me to reach in case something comes up!

Student's Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Period\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent’s Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_         Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Contact \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ This # is: Home\_\_\_\_\_ Cell\_\_\_\_\_ Email\_\_\_\_\_