



# Regents Chemistry

Mrs. Pollard

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## Introduction:

Chemistry is the basis of nearly everything you see around you every day! In this class we will uncover, explore, and analyze the “stuff” in the world around us as we work to understand the properties of matter, how matter interacts with other matter, and how it behaves in the presence of energy. Super cool stuff ☺

In the course we will also focus on advancing your skills in the following areas:

- Critical thinking
- Investigating real-world scenarios
- Problem solving
- Working collaboratively
- Asking questions and defining problems
- Analyzing and interpreting data
- Engaging in arguments from evidence
- Obtaining, evaluating, and communication in formation

## Course Outline:

This course is designed as a spiral curriculum, which means we have the opportunity to learn the basics first, and then revisit topics in more depth later on in the year. Many units in the second half of the year correlated directly to things we have already learned, we just take it a step farther. Built in review, how awesome!

## Lab Experiments:

### *Regents Lab Requirement*

According to NYS, in order for a student to be eligible to sit for the required Regents Chemistry Exam in June, they **must** accrue **AT LEAST 1200 minutes** of documented lab time by the end of the year. These labs will be completed during class time. If, at the end of a grading quarter, a student has not accrued 80% of the lab minutes offered, they will be given a grade of “incomplete” until their lab minute requirement is fulfilled. Please see the attached Regents science laboratory requirement guideline sheet for more information and feel free to contact me with any questions.

### *Lab Safety:*

In the laboratory, it is essential that every individual understands and exhibits proper laboratory behavior. Equipment and materials must be handled safely and appropriately. Your lab instructor will make you aware of safety precautions. It is YOUR responsibility to follow the directions. If a student chooses to act in a manner which is not appropriate, it may be necessary to remove the student from the classroom.

All protocols established within Rush-Henrietta Senior High School are employed within our classroom.

## Materials for Class:

- Something to write with- pen or pencil.
- 3 Ring Binder (2 inches is best)
- Scientific Calculator
- Chemistry Reference Table (I'll give this to you- but you have to bring it to class!)

## Class Expectations:

1. *Attendance, effort, and participation are essential!* Be here and be on time. Our work builds day-to-day, so if you miss class make sure to see me and make up what you have missed in a timely fashion.
2. Come prepared. Bring your stuff and be ready to learn!
3. Be respectful of yourself and others.
4. Be responsible for your own learning! Ask questions, challenge yourself, and be willing to go outside your comfort zone! I am here to guide you, but this is your experience and you will shape it.

## Grading:

Each quarter your grade will be determined in the following manner:

### 20% Assessments FOR Learning- Classwork, Quizzes, and Labs

- **CLASSWORK:** Classwork will not be graded, but is an essential component of the learning process. Any time a student does not finish classwork it will be their responsibility to do so before the next class.
- **QUIZZES:** Quizzes can be retaken as many times as necessary in order to reach mastery of the content. Any student who scores below an 80% is highly encouraged to retake. Retaking a quiz must be done outside of class time and requires meeting with me to go over missed concepts. Quiz retakes must be complete before that unit's exam. The idea here is to use your quizzes to reach mastery so that the unit exam is a piece of cake and you are well prepared!
- **LABS:** Students will receive lab minute credit for a given lab when their lab work is turned in to me and is complete and correct. If when turned in, students have incorrect or incomplete portions of their lab, the work will be returned to them for corrections to be made. Students then need to make the necessary corrections and resubmit before earning lab minute credit.

### 80% Assessments OF Learning- Unit Exams

- Unit Exams are required course assessments. If, at the end of a grading quarter, a student has not completed all of the required course assessments (unit exams) for that quarter, they will be given a grade of "incomplete" until their assessments are complete.

The Regents Exam at the end of the year is required for successful completion of the course; it is reported as a separate grade on transcript.

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**I AM HERE FOR YOU!!! I am available most days afterschool for extra help, quiz retakes, lab make-ups, etc. If you EVER unsure about material, behind in class, or overwhelmed let me know and we will work together to ensure your success! 😊**

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Please share the above information with your family and discuss it with them. Also review the Regents Science Laboratory Requirement guidelines sheet and Required Course Assessments sheet. Let me know if you have any questions or concerns! Please return the last page of this document with the following:

- Front: your signature and a parent/guardian signature as well as a good parent/guardian email address and/or phone number.
- Back: RH Science Lab Safety Contract signed by you and a parent/guardian.

## Regents Chemistry

I thank you ahead of time for the support you will provide your student throughout the year and in my class as we work together towards success for your student. Please feel free to contact me at any time with questions or concerns!

I have read and reviewed the Regents Chemistry course description and expectations with my student.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/guardian Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/guardian Signature(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/guardian(s) Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/guardian(s) Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Don't forget to review and sign the RH Science Lab Safety Contract on the back!