

**Course Syllabus**  
**CHM 138: General Chemistry I (3 hr)**  
**CHM 138-03**  
**Spring 2008**

Lecture location: CFS 103 (the new Chemistry/Forensic Science building)

Class Instructor: Dr. Rukma Basnayake

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Office hours: Tuesday 9:30-11:30 a.m., Wednesday 11.00 a.m. – noon. or by appointment

**Required text:** Chemistry: The Central Science by Brown, Lemay, and Bursten 10<sup>th</sup> edition

### **Course Description**

CHM 138 GENERAL CHEMISTRY I: LECTURE.

*This course is for chemistry and other science majors.*

*Fall, Spring, Summer. Prerequisites:*

Minimum grade of C in MTH 163, MTH 170, MTH 184 or MTH 199 (or equivalent), or a minimum Math score of 250 on the THEA (or equivalent). The THEA equivalent is 43 on ASSET, 75 on ACCUPLACER, 55 on COMPASS, 21 on ACT and 520 on SAT.

*The following topics are studied:*

chemical changes and laws governing them; the gas laws; reactions involving oxygen, hydrogen, acids, bases, and salts; ionization; metathesis; the periodic classification, and the atomic structure.

The work in this course is centered on (math-based) problem solving to a very large degree. The text's authors have included a large number of problems at the end of each chapter that **strongly require your attention**. Many of these problems are answered in the back of the text (see paragraph under the words "The Importance of Practice" on **page 29** of that text), but you should go to those solutions (answers) only as a last resort. Don't cheat yourself of the learning by looking up the answer before you have really tried the problem.

The Course Home Page for this CHM138.03 section can be reached via: [blackboard.shsu.edu](http://blackboard.shsu.edu). Online quizzes, Homework assignments, course materials (handouts, practice problem sets), grades, and all other announcements will be posted on the blackboard.

### **Required Calculator**

A scientific calculator is required. The word scientific in this context means that the calculator must be able to use scientific notation when entering, storing, and displaying numbers. Scientific notation involves the use of exponents as in the number  $6.022 \times 10^{23}$ . **To limit the use of** memory-intensive calculators that can store text, formulae, and chemical nomenclature, you are required to use a Texas Instruments TI30 model calculator in this course **during in-class tests**.

There are multiple different TI30 models and all of them will work but **I suggest the TI30Xa**. TI models such as TI34 or TI36 are not **TI30** series calculators by this definition.

You may not use your cell phone during your tests.

### **Purpose of This Course**

The purpose of this chemistry course is to provide a fundamental introduction to the chemical sciences. The material covered in this course will prepare science majors for subsequent courses in chemistry, biology, environmental science, and forensics.

### **Exams**

There will be four tests and a final. (The scheduled test dates are not negotiable but can be changed at the discretion of the instructor.). Your lowest Test grade will be dropped.

- Test 1      Thursday, February 12, 2008.
- Test 2      Thursday, March 6, 2008.
- Test 3      Thursday, April 08, 2008.
- Test 4      Thursday, May 06, 2008.
- Final        Thursday, May 15, 2008; 8:00 to 10:00 a.m.

A **grade of C** in this course is the minimum requirement to be able to enroll in **Chemistry 139**, the second freshman chemistry course.

*The grading in this course will be based as follows:*

<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Maximum Total Points</b>
Test 1	100
Test 2	100
Test 3	100
Final	100
Homework, On-line quizzes, and In-class quizzes/assignments,	100

**3 Tests 60 % + 1 Final 20 % + 20 % for Assigned on-line quizzes, in-class quizzes and homework.**

Your final grade will be based on your total points.

<b>Total Points</b>	<b>Grade</b>
500 – 450	A
449-400	B
399-350	C
349-300	D
299-0	F

The grades for all the assignments/exams will be posted on Blackboard. It is your responsibility to track of your assignment average.

### **Attendance Policy**

Regular and punctual class attendance is expected of each student as Sam Houston State University. The class roll will be checked each class period, and a written record of each student's attendance will be maintained. Students will be allowed 3 class absences without penalty. Any absences over 3 classes will result in final grade reductions.

### **On-Line Quizzes, In-Class Assignments and Homework**

Note that the on-line quizzes, in-class assignments and homework are required in this course. All the assignments must be turned in by the due date. Late assignments will not be graded. These assignments are used to reinforce lecture material; they will be assigned as the material is covered in lecture. These are meant to help the average student keep up and master the material assigned each day and covered in class.

The online quizzes are automatically graded as you take them.

### **Missed Assignments (Online quizzes, In-class assignments, homework)**

Missed online quizzes and in-class assignments result in a zero for that assignment. They cannot be made up. You are allowed to miss two in-class assignments without any penalties. Homework assignments are due the next class period after the absence. Late assignments will not be graded.

### **Missed Tests**

There are no make-ups for unexcused absences on tests or the final. If you miss an exam for an unexcused absence then your grade on that exam is zero.

Excused absences included sickness that involves a doctor or health clinic visit, death in the immediate family, and emergency situations like fires or automobile accidents.

If you have an excused absence and can't attend a test, when you supply documentation for your absence a make-up exam will be scheduled. It is your responsibility to contact me as soon as possible after the missed test to begin this process. If you do not supply that documentation before the next schedule test then the missed test grade becomes zero. In other words, excused absences require documentation.

### **Academic Honesty**

The University expects all students to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. Furthermore, the University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials.

### **Classroom Rules of Conduct**

Students are expected to assist in maintaining a classroom environment that is conducive to learning. Students are to treat faculty and students with respect. Students are to turn off all cell phones or any electronic devices while in the classroom. Under no circumstances are cell phones or any electronic devices to be used or seen during times of examination.

## **Student Absences on Religious Holidays**

Section 51.911 of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education shall allow a student who is absent from class for the observance of a religious holy day to take an examination or complete an assignment scheduled for that day within a reasonable time after the absence. The student, not later than the 15th calendar day after the first day of the semester, or the 7th calendar day after the first day of a summer session, must notify the instructor of each scheduled class that he/she would be absent for a religious holy day. Refer to the Academic Calendar for the deadline date for notification by students to the faculty members of the student's intent to be absent on religious holy days.

## **STUDENTS with Disabilities**

### **Services to Students with Disabilities**

It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that no otherwise qualified disabled individual shall, solely by reason of his/her disability, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any academic, Student Life program or activity. Students with disabilities may request academic assistance when needed from a Committee for Continuing Academic Assistance for Disabled Students by visiting the director of the Counseling Center, located in the annex of the Lee Drain Building across the sidewalk from Farrington Building, or call (936) 294-1720 (For additional information see the University Catalog). For assistance other than academic, the student with disabilities should contact the department from which assistance is needed, such as University Police for parking, the Registrar's Office for registration, etc. If problems are not resolved on the departmental level, contact the Interim Coordinator, Americans with Disabilities Act, or call (936) 294-1015. Students with disabilities may benefit by using CCTV's and voice-activated reading machines available in the Counseling Center. Hours of operation are Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. For further information, contact the Counseling Center staff at (936) 294-1720. CCTV and a voice-activated reading machine are also available in the library.

### **Americans with Disabilities Act**

SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If you have a disability that may affect adversely your work in this class, then I encourage you to register with the SHSU Counseling Center and to talk with me about how I can best help you. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. NOTE: no accommodation can be made until you register with the Counseling Center.

### **Visitors in the Classroom**

Only registered students may attend class. Exceptions can be made on a case-by-case basis by the professor. In all cases, visitors must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. Students wishing to audit a class must apply to do so through the Registrar's Office.

### **Communication**

Announcements will be made during regular class time, through email, and through postings made on Blackboard. It is your responsibility to check for these announcements.