Mrs. Cook ● Email: bcook@salem.k12.va.us ● Website: mrscookchemistry.weebly.com

Welcome to Chemistry! I am very excited to have you in my class this year. This syllabus outlines the class policies and procedures I expect you to follow as a member of our classroom. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Mastery Grading

Our goal at Salem High School is to have you master course content. Therefore, our policies in Chemistry will reflect this attitude. My website lists the resources and practice activities that will be offered to help you learn and master Chemistry content.

Our classroom adopts a policy of academic responsibility. As a result, it is my role as your teacher to provide you with instruction, resources, practice, and feedback, and it is your role as the student to try your best, complete practice activities, ask questions, study, and reflect on the feedback provided to identify and improve on areas of weakness. Many ungraded practice activities will be provided with feedback for you to reflect on how well you have mastered the content. Graded assessments, such as quizzes and tests, based on the practice activities will be provided as opportunities for you to validate your level of mastery. No retakes will be provided on these graded assessments, however, you will have opportunities to return to weak areas and improve your mastery throughout the year.

Final grades will be calculated based on the categories listed below. The weights of assignments and categories are based on state standards, the amount of class time spent on the content, the difficulty of the content, and the type of assessment.

Category	Weight
Unit 1: Matter & Measurement	≈7%
Unit 2: Atomic Theory & Structure	≈7%
Unit 3: Periodic Table & Periodic	≈7%
Trends	
Unit 4: Chemical Bonding	≈7%
Unit 5: Chemical Nomenclature	≈9%
Unit 6: Chemical Reactions	≈9%
Unit 7: Moles	≈9%
Unit 8: Stoichiometry	≈9%
Unit 9: Thermochemistry, Kinetics,	≈7%
Equilibrium	
Unit 10: Solutions & Acids and Bases	≈7%
Unit 11: Gases & Gas Laws	≈7%
Unit 12: Lab	≈7%
Unit 13: Cumulative Assessments	≈7%
(Benchmarks, Final Exam)	

^{**}These percentages are not exact. If you would like the percent weights of each category to two decimal places, please contact me.

Class Rules:

①Respect for all. ②Be prepared. ③Raise hand. ④Stay seated. ⑤No heads down. ⑥No personal grooming. Cell phones and earphones are not permitted in the classroom.

Behavioral Consequences

All behavioral issues, such as tardiness, putting one's head down during class, refusal to complete a class activity, or disregard for teacher directions will be handled in the same way: First offense = conference with student; Second offense = student assigned detention and parents contacted; Third offense = administrative referral.

Absent procedure

- 1. To learn the missed course content, use the resources available on my website, make plans to come in the morning, stay after school, or meet with a friend.
- 2. It is your responsibility to arrange a time to make up quizzes and tests as soon as possible.

Extra help

If you need extra help, I am available each morning at 7:30 am. If you have been absent, this is an ideal time to get caught up. If you would like assistance after school, please let me know ahead of time so that arrangements can be made.

Textbooks

A hardcopy textbook for the course is available upon request. We also have access to an electronic textbook. When the login information for the electronic textbook becomes available, I will post it on my website and in the classroom.

Class materials:

- pencil, paper, organization system (your choice: binder, folder, etc.)
- mode of calculating that features scientific notation, exponents, parentheses, and logarithms
 - o Desmos is free to use on SHS Chromebooks
 - o cell phones may not be used in class, but there are several good apps available for use at home
 - there are several good \$10-\$15 options available
 - my favorite is the Texas Instruments TI-30X IIS Scientific Calculator (see my website for additional information)