Office Hours: My office hours are T&Th 10AM-12PM, but you may stop by my office any time.


Course Website: PolyLearn

Chemistry 128 introduces fundamental concepts in chemistry, science, and general learning skills. The course will generally follow the topics suggested by the text. However, you should not expect (or want!) a simple recapitulation of the textbook examples. Use the lectures in two ways: first, as another perspective on the 'map of concepts' that links the examples together; and second, as a chance to see a more expert learner in action. We will be exploring the ideas in Chapters 13, 16, 17, 20 and 21. The exams will test your ability to project and apply the broad concepts to new and unfamiliar situations.

Grading:

- Exams will be offered only on the days listed on the syllabus. Exams are timed. You will not receive additional time unless you have presented documented proof of need prior to the exam. No make-up exams will be given. If you have conflicts with a particular exam, contact me prior to the day of the exam.
- You may only use non-programmable calculators for exams.
- Grades are determined on a straight scale (not curved) with an average in the B- to C+ range. The scale means nothing in an absolute sense (what does 83% mean? It depends on the exam.)
- Historically, averages are in the mid-60% range, with approximately 75-80% of students earning a C- or better. THIS IS NOT A CONTRACT, but a prediction based on historical averages. Some quarters are slightly higher, some lower, depending on student effort. In those quarters when the average is higher than usual, more students earn A’s and B’s. In those quarters when the average is lower than usual, more students earn lower grades.
- Significant and continual improvement can count. Can a person with a slightly lower number of course points be assigned a higher grade than someone else if he/she showed significant improvement? Yes, it can happen. Yes, it is rare. No, it is not unfair. Assigning grades is a faculty member’s professional prerogative, not a service contract.
- There is no make-up work and no extra credit.
- Every effort is made to grade your exams with consistency and fairness. However, if errors occur, I will correct the errors. Regrade appeals go to me (in writing only) in the lecture immediately following exam returns. Except for clerical errors, regrade requests will be a reevaluation of the entire exam. Regrades may result in an overall decrease in score if additional errors are found that impact your grade negatively. Check your exam thoroughly before submitting a regrade.
- You cannot pass the course with a failing laboratory grade.
- Grades will be based on the following:
  - Midterm Exams (2) 200 pts each
  - Final Exam 300 pts
  - Laboratory 200 pts

Cheating:

What can I say that you do not already know? Do not do it. It is not worth it. Documented cases of cheating may result in a failing grade for the course. In addition to the impact on your grade, faculty members and advisors are often obliged to reveal such information in letters of recommendation. Also, many professional programs and graduate schools require you to reveal this information as part of your application process. Pre-health students, for instance, should be aware that the AMCAS requires such information and also some schools are now requiring background checks.
Course Learning Resources:
There are many resources available to you in this course. Do not mistake them for ways to avoid the real learning process. Regardless of how many and which resources you use to study, if you are not ultimately preparing to take the exam, the resources are useless. This is an error that students often realize too late. Not all of these opportunities are right for everyone. Successful students tend to be adventurous and try new study techniques. Use a variety of styles of studying. Be active in your learning. Remember that an exam is the reversal of our usual roles: during an exam I ask you questions and you give me answers. If you have not practiced how to clearly and thoroughly explain the chemistry to someone else before the exam, you may find that the exam is a poor time to learn this skill.

- Lecture
- Reading the textbook
- There are no graded homework assignments in this class. Your standing assignment for each chapter is to do all the problems in the chapter.
- The PolyLearn site has “You Can Do It!” problems that track, roughly, the progress of the lecture schedule. You should be able to complete these after each lecture.
- Textbook website has optional “Learn Smart” assignments along with an iPhone/iPad app for practice, as well as quizzes and other problem-solving resources.
- Previous exams
- Office Hours
- Forming your own study groups
- Laboratory practice
- Finding your own chemistry problems and resources online
- Study advice essay on PolyLearn

Tentative outline:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week of</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June 18</td>
<td>Chapters 13</td>
<td>Chapters 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 25</td>
<td>Chapters 13 &amp; 16</td>
<td>Chapter 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 2</td>
<td>Chapter 16</td>
<td>Exam 1: Ch. 13 &amp; 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 9</td>
<td>Chapter 17</td>
<td>Chapter 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 16</td>
<td>Chapter 17 &amp; 20</td>
<td>Chapter 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 23</td>
<td>Chapter 20</td>
<td>Exam 2: Chaps. 13,16,17,20</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 30</td>
<td>Chapter 21</td>
<td>Chapter 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 6</td>
<td>Chapter 21</td>
<td>Chapter 21/End</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 13</td>
<td>T. August 14</td>
<td>Final Exam 7:10-9:00AM Cumulative</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tues. August 14</td>
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</tbody>
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(Note: this outline is tentative. Dates of lecture topics and chapters covered by exams may be adjusted as necessary, however exam dates will not change. Exams are only offered on the days shown. All exams are cumulative, but they will focus on the most recently covered material since the prior exam.)

Course grade appeals must be made by the student within one quarter after the quarter in which the original grade was assigned.)