



Department of Chemistry  
and Biochemistry

# Periodic Table

CHEM 2261, Spring 2021

## Class Topics

This course provides an introduction to the periodic table and its organization while providing a survey of the bonding and chemistry of its elements. This is a concepts based course that requires little memorization of facts but necessitates critical thinking skills.

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### Days and Times:

Mondays and Wednesdays  
10:30 am – 11:50 am

### Instructor:

Dr. Skye Fortier

### TA:

Alejandra Gomez  
mgomeztorr@miners.utep.edu

### Location:

Virtual

### Office:

CCSB 2.0404

### Office Hours:

Fridays 9:00 am – 10:00 am  
and by appointment

### Course Drop Deadline:

April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021

### Contact information:

747-5195, [asfortier@utep.edu](mailto:asfortier@utep.edu)

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## Textbook:

Pannell & Haiduc, *The Periodic Table – A Classification of Elements and their Compounds*

## Supplemental Texts:

The following texts are useful references and, from time to time, may be used to supplement class discussion. These texts need not be purchased.

Greenwood and Earnshaw, *Chemistry of the Elements*

DeKock & Gray, *Chemical Structure and Bonding*

Shriver & Weller, et al., *Inorganic Chemistry*

House, *Inorganic Chemistry*

Additional literature material will also be provided for review and discussion.

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## Topics and their order of discussion are subject to change, but are likely to include:

- Introduction to Quantum Theory of Electrons
- Atomic Properties and Periodic Trends
- Bonding Models using Valence Bond Theory
- Molecular Shapes and Size
- Elemental Groups and their Representative Chemistry

†Students are expected to know how to draw Lewis dot structures and must be familiar with VSEPR theory

‡CHEM 2321 Organic Chemistry I is a prerequisite to this course.

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**Grading\*:**

Content Exam	10%
Midterm Exam	30%
Forum Participation	15%
Comprehensive Final Exam	45%

The final examination may include an oral component worth 20% of the exam grade.

Your grade in the course is based on your performance on three examinations, and your participation in online forum discussions that will be posted to Blackboard on a regular basis. Forum discussions will be available for a period of time in which you may participate for a grade. A grade cannot be received after a forum discussion closes. Additionally, your forum discussion participation grade will depend on the apparent effort placed in the exercise.

No additional work will be assigned for extra credit other than that detailed below.\*\*

\*However, if you perform poorly on the midterm exam and receive a failing grade but successfully pass the final examination with an A or B (*prior to any curve or grade adjustments*), the midterm grade will be dropped.

\*\*Extra Credit: There may potentially be an opportunity to earn additional credit towards your exam grades on the following date:

- TBD

On this date, an invited seminar speaker will participate in an hour long Q&A session that is intended for student audiences. Full attendance at the event will earn an additional 10% on the final exam. Attendance is not mandatory but is highly encouraged.

Time and location is subject to change or cancellation.

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**Class Format and Participation:**

The course will be held virtually and asynchronously with lectures posted regularly or entirely in advance on Blackboard. The asynchronous schedule has been adopted to provide students with the maximum flexibility possible during this time. As homework will not be assigned during the course, it is incumbent upon you, the student, to make sure that you consistently invest the time necessary to digest and comprehend the material.

Office hours will be offered in-person and will also be held virtually. Student attendance and participation is encouraged.

**Missing an Exam:**

If you miss an exam, a valid and documented excuse must be provided (e.g. medical emergency, school field trip or conference attendance, court appearance).

In the case that you are absent due to falling ill, a note from a licensed medical professional (i.e. medical doctor, nurse practitioner, or UTEP Health Center) is required. Otherwise, you must provide compelling evidence of illness or injury, and the decision to make-up the exam will fall at my sole discretion.

If you miss an exam because of a travel issue (e.g. missing your flight or flight cancellation) on a non-UTEP related trip, extensive documentation must be provided demonstrating circumstances beyond your control. You must notify me immediately of your situation. I will evaluate your case and qualification for a make-up exam will be made at my discretion.

It is your responsibility to contact me at the email address listed above to schedule time for a re-take. If you do not contact me at the correct email address to make arrangements within 3 days of the original exam date, a failing grade of 0 will be automatically assigned.

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**Make-up exam:**

The make-up exam may mirror the original exam, be slightly altered, or altogether changed in form, format and content at my discretion. In the latter two cases, best efforts will always be made to maintain the same level of difficulty, but this is not guaranteed.

**Special Accommodations:**

If you have a disability and need classroom accommodations, please contact The Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at 747-5148, or by email to [cass@utep.edu](mailto:cass@utep.edu), or visit their office located in UTEP Union East, Room 106. For additional information, please visit the CASS website at [www.sa.utep.edu/cass](http://www.sa.utep.edu/cass). *CASS' Staff are the only individuals who can validate and if need be, authorize accommodations for students with disabilities.*

If you are designated special accommodations by CASS, it is your responsibility to coordinate these exam accommodations between CASS and me. If CASS will proctor the examination, it must be scheduled within 3 days of the exam date. Otherwise, you will not be allowed to take the exam and will receive a failing grade of 0 (unless there is a special exception as written in the "MISSING AN EXAM" section above).