

Introduction to General Chemistry Syllabus

CHEM1307 (CRN 14254)

Fall 2023

Course and Instructor Information:

Instructor of Record: Dr. H. Patricio Del Castillo

Instructor's contact: hpdelcastil@utep.edu

Office hours: Upon request

Technical support contact: helpdesk@utep.edu



Course description

UTEP CHEM1307 is an introductory course to general chemistry. It encompasses the fundamentals of topics to understand the structure of matter and its interaction with the universe.

Text and Materials:

- Scientific calculator
- **Class Guides** (a blank hard copy of the instructor's guides)
- Any general chemistry book is fine to complement the material in class.
- Scantron packet for all the midterm exams (sold at UTEP's bookstore)



Course Requirements:

During this course, you will perform activities in-person and online through Blackboard. It will be very important that you comply with the activities in the corresponding due dates, and that you keep a calendar with the activities at hand. The final grade of your course will be calculated by the following criteria:

Average of Homework Activities – 20% (Online activities)

Average of Exams (2 Midterms and Final) – 55% (In-person activities unless otherwise specified)

Science Fair (Final Project) – 25% (In-person activity)

Homework activities: They are designed to test your knowledge on the topics that we have seen in class. They will be displayed in the form of Blackboard quizzes that must be completed in one sitting. You will have 2 attempts per activity.

Mock Midterm Exam: During the semester there will be **one single** mock midterm exam that will be part of your “Average of Homework” final grade. The test will be displayed in the form of Blackboard quiz that must be completed using the Software Respondus Lockdown Browser available at the UTEP Webpage. What this sole test will grade is your comprehension on how to complete midterm exams in the correct online format, following the **correct camera angle format**. The content that you must study for this exam will be entirely related to the “Guide to complete Homework activities” available inside “**Module 1 – Check-in to the course**”.

Midterm Exams: The midterm exam will test your knowledge on certain parts of the course, and they will be completed in-person on specific dates, unless otherwise specified. If at any point of the semester the instructor decides to switch to an online midterm exam, it must be completed using the Software Respondus Lockdown Browser, available online at the UTEP Webpage. Midterm exams must be completed in the **correct camera angle format**. **FAILING TO COMPLY WITH THIS WILL RESULT IN THE STUDENT SCORING A 0 AS HIS OR HER GRADE, WITHOUT A CHANCE TO RETAKE HIS OR HER EXAM.** Make sure that you check your feedback from the “mock midterm exam” that your instructor will give you during the semester so that you are certain that you know how to complete these activities.

Science Fair: More information will be disclosed as the semester progresses.

It is the student’s responsibility to monitor his or her grade as the semester progresses. The grades will be in display and updated for the student at all times!

Grading system:

Your activities will be graded on a basis of 0-100. By the end of the course, your accumulated grade will be translated to the corresponding letter grade using the following criteria:

A = 90 - 100

D = 60 - 69

B = 80 - 89

F = 0 - 59

C = 70 - 79

Instructors Policies:

Attendance: The instructor **will not** take attendance as part of your grade. It is your responsibility to attend the classes, to do self-studying if you miss a class, and to schedule your own office hours if you need personalized assistance.

Late policy: The success for this class relies mostly on the completion of your online and in-person activities on time. There are only two instances in which the instructor will grant an extension of any activity that needs to be completed in-person (Midterm Exams and Final Project):

- 1) An instance regarding an infectious disease or a situation that physically incapacitates you from attending your class. Medical and/or other type of valid evidence must be provided for this. **The evidence must be official, and it must contain the date to be considered.**
- 2) An instance regarding an athletic or academic event. It will be 100% your responsibility to notify your instructor about this instance with enough time. Official letters and emails from your coach or academic representative is enough valid proof.

There are only two instances in which the instructor will allow you to work outside of your scheduled times for any online activity (Homework activities and Online Midterm Exams)

- 1) An instance regarding a situation that physically incapacitates you from working from home, and/or at UTEP's computer laboratories (refer to the location of these facilities in the syllabus). Medical and/or other type of valid evidence must be provided for this. **The evidence must be official, and it must contain the date to be considered.**
- 2) A malfunction related to Blackboard that was detected and addressed with the helpdesk before due dates during regular office hours. Students who experience malfunctions from Blackboard close or during the due date of an activity **will not** be considered for an extension. If you decide to submit a prelab or lab report 10 minutes before the due date, then this is the risk.

Other than this, there will be **NO EXCEPTIONS** for any late submissions or absence to class.

Technical support at UTEP:

UTEP offers many technical support services that will assist you in completing your activities during the semester:

- 1) UTEP offers working spaces that are open to the students. Get familiar with the times and location of the workplaces by accessing the following link: https://www.utep.edu/technologysupport/ServiceCatalog/COMP_ComputerPrintingLabs.html.
- 2) UTEP offers the possibility to lend technological gadgets in the event of any loss during the semester. Email the helpdesk for more information.
- 3) Any technical difficulty related to your webmail or Blackboard's functions is solved through the helpdesk.

Contact the helpdesk for more information: helpdesk@utep.edu. **Make sure to always contact them during office hours to maximize your chances to get a reply!**

Contact the helpdesk for more information: helpdesk@utep.edu

Course calendar

Date	Monday	Wednesday
1 – Aug 28 th and 30 th	Module 1 - Class check-in	Module 2 – Chemistry and Measurement
2 – Sep 4 th and 6 th	NO CLASSES – LABOR DAY	Module 2 – Chemistry and Measurement Online Mock Midterm Exam
3 – Sep 11 th and 13 th	Module 3 – Mass and Energy	Module 3 – Mass and Energy
4 – Sep 18 th and 20 th	Module 4 - Atoms	Module 4 - Atoms
5 – Sep 25 th and 27 th	Module 5 – Chemical Bonds	Module 5 – Chemical Bonds (Online Session, do not attend the classroom)
6 – Oct 2 nd and 4 th	Module 6 – Chemical Reactions	Module 6 – Chemical Reactions
7 – Oct 9 th and 11 th	<i>Review for First Midterm Exam*</i>	<i>Review for First Midterm Exam*</i>
8 – Oct 16 th and 18 th	First Midterm Exam	Module 7 – Gases
9 – Oct 23 rd and 25 th	Module 7 – Gases	Module 8 – Solutions
10 – Oct 30 th and Nov 1 st	Module 8 – Solutions	Module 9 – Introduction to Physical Chemistry
11 – Nov 6 th and 8 th	Module 9 – Introduction to Physical Chemistry	Module 10 – Acids and Bases
12 – Nov 13 th and 15 th	Module 10 – Acids and Bases	<i>Review for Second Midterm Exam</i>
13 – Nov 20 th and 22 nd	<i>Review for Second Midterm Exam</i>	Second Midterm Exam
14 – Nov 27 th and 29 th	No classes – Preparation for Final Project	<i>Review for Final Exam*</i>
15 – Nov 29 – Dec 1	No classes – Preparation for Final Project	<i>Review for Final Exam*</i>
16 – Dec 4 th and 6 th	<i>Review for Final Exam*</i>	Final Exam – During class time
17 – Dec 11 th and 13 th	No classes – Preparation for Final Project	Science Fair at 7:30 PM at the classroom

*Review sessions may be established as online activities. Your instructor will let you know every time

Assignment Calendar

	Topic	Due date on Blackboard
<u>Homework 1</u>	Module 1 – Check-in to the course	Friday, Sep 1 st , before 10:00 PM
<u>Homework 2</u>	Module 2 – Chemistry and Measurement	Friday, Sep 8 th , before 10:00 PM
<u>Homework 3</u>	Module 3 – Energy and Matter	Friday Sep 15 th , before 10:00 PM
<u>Homework 4</u>	Module 4 – Atoms	Friday, Sep 22 nd , before 10:00 PM
<u>Homework 5</u>	Module 5 – Chemical Bonds	Friday Sep 29 th , before 10:00 PM
<u>Homework 6</u>	Module 6 – Chemical Reactions	Friday, Oct 6 th , before 10:00 PM
<u>Homework 7</u>	Module 7 – Gases	Friday, Oct 27 th , before 10:00 PM
<u>Homework 8</u>	Module 8 – Solutions	Friday Nov 3 rd , before 10:00 PM
<u>Homework 9</u>	Module 9 – Introduction to Physical Chemistry	Friday, Nov 10 th , before 10:00 PM
<u>Homework 10</u>	Module 10 – Acids and Bases	Friday, Nov 17 th , before 10:00 PM
<u>Homework 11</u>	Extra credit – All modules	Tuesday, Dec 5rd, before 10:00 PM

*Both calendars are subject to change depending on the performance of the group

Midterms and Final Project Dates:

Mock Midterm Exam – Wednesday, September 6th, before 10:00 PM through Bb [Module 1]

First Midterm Exam – Monday, October 16th during class time [Modules 2 – 6]

Second Midterm Exam – Wednesday, November 22nd during class time [Modules 7 – 10]

Final Project Presentation – Wednesday, Dec 13th from 7:00 PM to 9:45 PM at the classroom

UTEP Academic Calendar:

Date	Event
Aug 28th	Fall classes begin
Aug 28th - Sept 1st	Late Registration (Fees are incurred)
Sept 4th	Labor Day Holiday - University Closed
Sept 13th	Fall Census Day Note: This is the last day to register for classes. Payments are due by 5:00 pm.
Sept 25th	20 th Class Day Note: Students who were given a payment deadline extension will be dropped at 5:00 pm if payment arrangements have not been made.
Oct 6th	Graduation application deadline for degree conferral
Nov 3rd	Fall Drop/Withdrawal Deadline Note: Student-initiated drops are permitted after this date, but the student is not guaranteed a grade of W. The faculty member of record will issue a grade of either W or F.
Nov 17th	Deadline to submit candidates' names for commencement program
Nov 23rd-24th	Thanksgiving Holiday- University Closed
Dec 7th	Fall - Last day of classes
Dec 8th	Dead day
Dec 11th-15th	Fall Final Exams
Dec 16-17th	Fall Commencement
Dec 19th	Grades are Due
Dec 20th	Grades are posted to student records; students are notified of grades and academic standing

Extracted from: <https://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/registrar/Academic%20Calendars/academic-calendar.html>