CHEM 1211L-General Chemistry I Laboratory Syllabus  
Spring 2008

Instructor: Dr. Lea Padgett, Science center 2105, 961-3256 lea.padgett@armstrong.edu

Office hours: As posted on my door. Other times may be available by appointment.

Materials: Calculator, visorgogs, handouts from web, laboratory notebook

Laboratory Experiments: Go to http://www.chemistry.armstrong.edu/labselect.htm prior to each laboratory exercise to obtain the materials required to participate in the experiment. Click on the link “CHEM1211L”, enter the “User Name” and “Password”, then click on the desired “Experiment”. The user name is “AASUCHEM1211L” and the password is “CH1211L5304”

Honor Code: It is the student’s responsibility to abide by the honor code found in the AASU handbook. Failure to abide by this will result in a grade of F for the assignment with continuous disregard resulting in a grade of F for the course. All graded work, including quizzes and post-laboratory reports are to be your own work, meaning that consultation and comparing answers is not allowed.

Attendance Policy: Attendance in lab is required. Work will not be accepted late or for days that you are absent. If a laboratory exercise is missed, it will be counted as the student’s drop lab and drop quiz for the semester. However, if the second missed lab is due to documented illness, jury duty, or military obligation, a negotiated settlement can be made with the instructor if notification is given in advance and official documentation provided. All other cases or additional absences will result in a zero grade for that day. The student is still responsible for understanding any work missed.

If you are more than 10 minutes late to prelab or do not attend, you will not be allowed to participate in that day’s experiment, nor will make-up quizzes be given on the account of tardiness.

If you withdraw from lab you must withdraw from lecture, and if you withdraw from lecture, you must withdraw from lab. These are considered two parts of one course. The last day to withdraw without a WF is February 29, 2008 by 5:00 PM.

Safety: Goggles must be worn correctly the entire time that you are in lab. Failure to do so will result initially in a warning, then dismissal from the class and a zero for that day’s experiment. In addition, closed-toed shoes and long pants should be worn. The Safety Practices in the Introductory Chemistry Laboratory must be read and the Laboratory Safety Rules and Practice Contract must be signed.

Additional Policies: All students must check-in and check-out. See me to do this if you need to drop the course. Check-in sheets must be signed and returned to the instructor before the first experiment.

Electronic communication devices may not be used during the prelab lecture or as calculators for the prelab quiz. They may be used during lab if they are in silent/vibrate mode and are not disruptive. You may not take off to talk on the phone and leave your lab partner to do all the work! The instructor reserves the right to change this policy if it is abused.
Grading: Your lab grade is worth 25% of your overall grade in Chemistry. The percentage earned in lab will be given to your lecture instructor. This number will be rounded to the second decimal place, so a 59.51% is a failing grade! You must get an overall of 60% or better in lab or you will fail chemistry for the semester.

Post-laboratory Write-ups. The report is due at the beginning of the class one week after the experiment is completed. Late reports will be penalized 10 points per day, and will not be accepted after five business days. The post lab report consists of the data tables, sample calculations, and questions found with each lab experiment. For data run in triplicate only one set of calculations is required. To receive full credit, you must show all work required to solve the problem including units. Correct significant figures must be shown on final answers. Answers to questions must be complete and have scientific basis for full credit. Papers must be stapled!

Quizzes. A quiz will be given at the start of each lab session. These will consist of approximately five multiple choice questions drawn from the previous week’s exercise and from procedural information of the current day’s lab.

Notebooks. Laboratory notebooks will not receive a separate grade, however, the lab notebook is your “ticket” to lab. Without it, you will not be admitted to the lab and will receive a zero for that day’s experiment. At the end of the lab period you will turn in a copy of the day’s notebook pages to the instructor. If you do not turn in lab notebook pages for an experiment, the associated lab report will not be accepted and you will receive a zero. The lab notebook pages must be completed in the following way:

1. Data and observations are to be recorded directly using ink. Do not write data on scrap paper and then copy it over.
2. Errors should not be scribbled over, make changes by striking through with one line and putting the correct information next to it.
3. Data should be recorded with the proper units
4. Organize your pages with the following information: title of the experiment, purpose, date, partner’s name, observations, data tables (use lab handout as a guide) with units and proper sig figs.

Your grade will be determined using a point system, where you must receive 60% or greater of all possible points to pass lab. You will be able to drop one lab report and one quiz for the semester—these will be applied to days you are absent or to the lowest graded work. Total points for the semester total 1900.

Lab reports \[100 \text{ pts} \times 13 \text{ reports (after one drop)} = 1300 \text{ pts}\]

Quizzes \[50 \text{ pts} \times 12 \text{ quizzes (after one drop)} = 600 \text{ pts}\]

Your percentage is determined by taking the number of points earned and dividing by 1900.