

CHEM 10: Introductory Chemistry

(Course Number: 21601; Section: 22Z)

Fall 2025

Course Description

This is an introduction to the discipline of chemistry, including chemical laboratory techniques and methods and a survey of important chemical principles. The course emphasizes chemistry as a subject of scientific inquiry and is designed to give the student a general appreciation for chemistry as a science.

At De Anza College, Chem10 is our general education / liberal arts chemistry class. This class fulfills the general education requirement and is designed to give students an appreciation for chemistry as a science.

Note that this class is **not** equivalent to Chem 25 or Chem 30A, and it does **not** fulfill the prerequisite to take Chem 1A.

This section of Chem10, offered during the Fall 2024 quarter at De Anza College is entirely online with *no* in-person labs or in-person assessments. Please confirm *with your transfer institution* that the credits for this class fill your educational and professional needs.

Class Meeting Times

Lecture: Mondays and Wednesdays from 9:30 – 11:20 am via Zoom

Lab: Wednesdays from 11:30 am–2:20 pm via Zoom

Instructor Contact Information

Gorkem Ermut

Email: ermutgorkem@fhda.edu

I prefer to be contacted **via CANVAS**. Sometimes student emails can get lost in Outlook, but I check both regularly.

Office Hours: Mondays 11:20 PM–1:20 PM via Zoom.

Required Course Materials

- **Textbook:** The primary textbook for this class is *Chemistry for Changing Times* by Hill and McCreary. This textbook is available as an eBook rental from Pearson, or you may use the roughly equivalent free version on [LibreTexts](#).
- **Lab Manual:** The Laboratory Manual for each experiment will be posted in CANVAS
- **Access to CANVAS:** CANVAS is the platform I will use to instruct the course. Students will use Canvas to access all course material (**including the lab manual**).
- **Scientific Calculator** (Must have log and exponential functions. Graphing is not necessary. You may not use your phone as a calculator for any quizzes, exercises, or exams. Recommended model TI-30XIIs)
- **Genius Scan:** Throughout the quarter, you will turn in handwritten assignments by creating a PDF and uploading this file to Canvas. Recommended apps include GeniusScan and CamScanner. Do not use Adobe apps to turn your assignments in– the resulting file is often too large to display properly on Canvas.

Course Outline of Record and Course Objectives

Course Outline of Record

Online at: <https://www.deanza.edu/catalog/courses/outline.html?cid=chemd010>

Please save a copy of the course outline of record. You may find it useful when you transfer.

Course Objectives

1. Examine the historical development of concepts concerned with the fundamental building blocks of matter– atoms and molecules– and their concomitant effect on our understanding of molecular structure.
2. Assess the importance of the mole concept in stoichiometric calculations.
3. Explore the relationship between the molecular structures of compounds and their effect on the chemical properties of compounds.
4. Explore the contributions of men and women from a variety of cultures and ethnic backgrounds to the field of chemistry.
5. Evaluate ethical issues and environmental effects, from local to global, that have arisen from the extraction, use, and disposal of chemicals.

Student Learning Objectives

1. Develop problem-solving techniques by applying the “Scientific Method” to chemical data.
2. Analyze and solve chemical questions utilizing the information presented in the periodic table of the elements.
3. Evaluate current scientific theories and observations utilizing a scientific mindset and an understanding of matter and the changes it undergoes

Prerequisites

There are no formal prerequisites for this class; however, the department recommends that students taking this class be proficient in conversational English, and it will be helpful to have some background in math.

Advisory: EWRT 211 and READ 211, or ESL 272 and 273; MATH 212 or equivalent

Information on the format of the Class

- Both the lecture and the lab portion of this course are “online”. A new lecture module will be opened to students every Monday in Canvas, including the reading materials for that week, lecture slides, and homework.
- Participation during the lecture is critical as the lecture will also include various in-class exercises, and your work from these exercises will affect 8% of your total grade.
- The lab portion of this class is online and meets weekly for 3 hours per week via Zoom. Students **must** be present in the lab each week.
- **Time Requirement:** This class includes approximately 4 hours of lecture and approx. 3 hours of lab per week. To receive a grade of “C” or better, you should allow 8-12 hours of studying, reading, and preparation outside of class **per week**.
- Canvas homework assignments are subject to a 5% point deduction for every late day (No penalties for the first two weeks)
- **The due dates for quizzes, homework, and pre-labs are firm. No Exceptions.**

Attendance Policy

Punctual attendance is expected at every class meeting. To be counted as present and receive credit for that day’s activities, you must join within the first 5 minutes of class. After that time, I cannot guarantee I will see you in the Zoom waiting room.

If you know you will be absent or late, please notify me by email or Canvas Inbox. Communicating about attendance shows responsibility and respect for both yourself and your classmates.

Class meetings will not be recorded. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to connect with a classmate to catch up on what you missed.

Important Dates

- October 5th: Last Day for Adds
- October 5th: Last day to drop for a full refund, without “W” (Note that dropping the course in advance of either the drop or withdrawal deadline is your responsibility, and you will not simply be dropped because you stopped attending class at some point along the way.)
- November 11th: Veterans Day holiday – no classes; offices closed
- November 14th: Last day to drop with a "W" Drops after this date will result in an “F”
- November 27-30: Thanksgiving holiday – no classes; offices closed
- December 8th: Final Exam.

Grading Scale Breakdown

Grading scale showing letter grades and their corresponding percentage ranges:

LETTER GRADE EARNED	PERCENTAGE RANGE
A	90-100%
B	80-89%
C	70-79%
D	60-69%
F	Below 60%

Note: These are estimated brackets and might shift down (to your benefit) in the final calculation, depending upon the difficulty of exams. They will not shift up, so you may be guaranteed that if you are in the range listed, your letter grade will be at least that listed above.

Grading Policies

Breakdown of course grading components for lecture (80%) and lab (24%) with associated weight percentages.

- **Lecture (80 %)**
 - Active Learning Assignments in Class: 8%
 - Discussions: 4%
 - Online Homework: 10%
 - Quizzes: 8%
 - Midterm Exams 30%
 - Final Exam: 20%:
No advance or make-up exams will be given.
- **Lab (20%):**
 - Pre-Lab assignments (5%)
 - Lab assignments (10%)
 - Lab Exam (5%)

Description of Assignments

Lecture (80%)

- **Active Learning Assignments in Class (8%):** Students will be given active learning assignments during the lecture that encourage the development of collaboration and cognitive and problem-solving skills (polls, teamwork, etc.). Many of the questions from these assignments could appear on an exam. The two lowest active learning assignment grade drops. and **no make-up assignments** are available for any in-class assignments.
- **Online Homework Assignments (10%):** Online homework is submitted through Canvas and is due on Sundays at 11:59 pm. Homework assignments (through Canvas) are subject to a 1% point deduction for every late day (No penalties for the first two weeks).
- **Discussions (4%):** Throughout the course, you will participate in online discussions in Canvas. For each discussion, a prompt or topic will be posted. Your task is to write a thoughtful response to the prompt before the posted due date. These discussions are designed to help you engage with the material, share your ideas, and learn from your classmates' perspectives. Late or missing responses will not receive credit, so be sure to plan ahead and post on time.
- **Quizzes (8%):** Chapter quizzes will be available on Canvas from Thursday to Sunday of each week. Each quiz will be worth 10 points (though the number of questions may vary), and will primarily consist of multiple-choice questions. The lowest quiz grade drops. **The due dates for quizzes are firm. No exceptions.**
- **Midterm Exams (30%):** There will be three midterm exams, and the weightage for each Midterm Exam is 10%. All three exams will be counted towards your final grade. The midterm will be available on Canvas. **The due dates for exams are firm.**

- **Final Exam (16%):** Students will have 2 hours to complete the Cumulative Final Exam. The final exam is cumulative, requiring mastery of the material covered throughout the entire course. The final will be available on Canvas during the 12th week of the quarter, and it must be completed by Thursday, December 11th, at 11:59 pm. Note that you may attempt the exam only once. **The due date for the Final exam is firm. No exceptions.**

Lab (20%)

- **Pre-Lab Assignments (5%):** Online pre-lab assignments for the labs scheduled each week are submitted through **Canvas** and are due Wednesday at 9:30 AM. For each experiment, you must read and understand the background information and the experimental procedure before answering online prelab questions and before the lab session. **The due dates for Pre-labs are firm; pre-labs will not be accepted past the due date (the Wednesday before the lab). The lowest pre-lab score will be dropped from your course grade.**
- **Lab Assignments (10%):** Laboratory Assignment scores are based on the work done during the lab sessions. Students are expected to arrive on time and complete the synchronous activities.
- **Laboratory Exam (5%):** At the end of the quarter, there will be a lab exam about the information covered during the lab sessions, which will be online and available on Canvas. This exam will focus on your understanding of the underlying techniques and concepts that we have learned during the quarter.

Accommodated Testing

If you need specific accommodations, such as extended-time, I am glad to work with you to arrive at an appropriate accommodation arrangement. All such requests must go through Disability Support Programs and Services (DSPS), located in the Advanced Technology Center (AT209). If you need accommodations but are not yet registered through DSPS, please make sure to contact them as soon as possible, as I am not able to provide accommodations without a written notice from that office. The DSPS website is found at www.deanza.edu/dsps

Academic Integrity

Homework assignments are an opportunity to learn and practice the course material, and you should feel free to make use of resources that will help you to understand problems you are uncertain about, including your textbook, the course lecture videos or, other tutorials, or outside tutors. You should make sure, however, that you are, in fact, using these resources to help you understand how to approach the problems rather than simply entering the problem text into a search engine and copying any solutions you find. Course exams are a time to demonstrate your own independent knowledge of the course content, and your use of outside help to assist you in answering exam questions is limited to specifically approved materials. Consultation with another person in answering exam questions, whether in person or via the Internet, is considered cheating and will be handled as described below. The same is true for uploading any portion of an exam to an online homework help service (Chegg, CourseHero, etc.), whether during or after the exam period. You will always be provided with keys to course exams once they are returned to you, but posting exam questions online with permission is a violation of both De Anza academic integrity policies and copyright law. Cheating or plagiarizing in any form, including but not limited to those above, will not be tolerated. The first offense of academic dishonesty will result in a zero for the relevant exam or assignment, which may lead to failing the course. The offending student will also be reported to the Dean of Student Development, which may result in additional administrative consequences. For a fuller description of what constitutes a violation of academic integrity, see the De Anza College academic honor code at the link below: www.deanza.edu/policies/academic_integrity.html

Student Resources

- **Student Success Center (SSC) for supplemental Tutoring:** While I work hard to be flexible in my teaching style to meet most students' learning styles, you may want to seek out supplemental tutoring. Student Success Center (SSC) provides a great service for supplemental tutoring for students. In-person peer tutoring available in all areas. Student Success Center (SSC) website can be found at:
<https://www.deanza.edu/studentsuccess/>
- **Library:** The De Anza Library offers a wide range of resources to support your academic and career success. You can borrow books, calculators, hotspots, laptops, and tablets directly from the library. To explore available services, visit the Library website at <https://www.deanza.edu/library> If you have any questions, feel free to email the help desk at: dalibraryhelpdesk@fhda.edu

to follow the De Anza College Code of Conduct at all times while in the lab: “horseplay”, yelling, offensive language, or any behavior that could startle or frighten another student is not allowed during lab.

15. Strongly recommended: Wear nitrile gloves while performing lab work; wear a chemically resistant lab coat or lab apron; wear shoes made of leather or polymeric leather substitute. Reckless behavior will not be tolerated. If your actions endanger the health and safety of yourself or someone else, you will be asked to leave, and you will receive a zero for the day.

Student Learning Outcome(s) Resources

- Develop problem-solving techniques by applying the "Scientific Method" to chemical data.
- Analyze and solve chemical questions utilizing information presented in the periodic table of the elements.
- Evaluate current scientific theories and observations utilizing a scientific mindset and an understanding of matter and the changes it undergoes.

Office Hours

Mondays, 11:20 AM – 1:20 PM (via Zoom)

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Zoom