

CHEM 10: Introductory Chemistry

(Course Number: 21601; Section: 22Z)

Fall 2026

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, CHEM 10 is a general education chemistry course is designed to give students an appreciation for chemistry as a science and fulfill a general education requirement.

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

This section of CHEM 10, offered during the Fall 2026 quarter at De Anza College, is entirely online with no in-person labs or in-person assessments. If you plan to transfer this course to another institution or use it to meet a specific program requirement, please confirm with your transfer institution that this course meets your educational or professional needs.

Class Meeting Times

Lecture: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:30 – 11:20 AM via Zoom

Lab: Tuesdays, 11:30 AM–2:20 PM via Zoom

Accessing Zoom: Lecture and lab Zoom meetings can be accessed through the Zoom link in the left-hand navigation menu in Canvas. Please make sure you join the correct meeting (Lecture or Lab).

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. I will generally respond to messages within 24 hours on weekdays. Please note that I observe weekends; messages sent on Saturday or Sunday will be answered on Monday.

Office Hours: Thursdays, 11:30 AM–1:30 PM via Zoom. Office hours are open drop-in hours; no appointment is necessary. You may join at any time during the scheduled office hours to ask questions or get help. The Office Hours Zoom meeting can be accessed through the Zoom link in the left-hand navigation menu in Canvas.

Please note: If I am already meeting with another student when you join, you will remain in the Zoom waiting room until I am available. Students will be admitted one at a time to provide privacy during individual conversations.

Required Course Materials

- **Textbook:** The primary textbook for this course is *Chemistry for Changing Times* by Hill and McCreary. The textbook is available through the [De Anza College Bookstore](#) or directly from Pearson as an eBook rental.
 - **You do not need to purchase a new copy.** Renting is recommended to reduce costs, and older editions or used copies are acceptable for this course. A free adapted version is also available through [LibreTexts](#). Please note that chapter and page numbers may differ between editions.
- **Lab Materials:** All lab instructions and materials will be provided in Canvas. No separate lab manual needs to be purchased.
- **Computer and Internet Access:** Students must have access to a computer, reliable internet, and an individual email address. A **laptop or desktop computer is recommended** to successfully complete the course; a tablet or phone may not be adequate for all assignments and tests.
- **Canvas Access:** Canvas will be used for course materials, assignments, labs, announcements, grades, and other course information. Please check Canvas regularly throughout the quarter.
- **Scientific Calculator:** A scientific calculator with logarithmic and exponential functions is required. A graphing calculator is not necessary. Phones may not be used as calculators during quizzes, exercises, or exams. The **TI-30XIIS** is recommended, but an equivalent scientific calculator is acceptable.
- **Scanning App:** Some handwritten assignments will need to be submitted to Canvas as PDF files. You may use a scanning app such as Genius Scan or CamScanner. Please make sure your scans are clear, properly oriented, and combined into one PDF file before submitting.

Course Outline of Record and Course Objectives

Course Outline of Record: [View the official CHEM 10 Course Outline of Record](#)

You may wish to save a copy of the Course Outline of Record, as it may be useful for transfer or when verifying course requirements with another institution.

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 prerequisites** for CHEM 10.

Advisory: ESL 272 and ESL 273, or ESL 472 and ESL 473, or eligibility for ENGL C1000 or ENGL C1000H or ESL 5.

Recommended Math Skills: Although there is no math prerequisite for this course, students should be comfortable with basic arithmetic and algebra. We will use these skills throughout the quarter for chemistry calculations.

Course Format and Expectations

- **Online Format:** Both the lecture and laboratory portions of this course are fully online and meet synchronously via Zoom. A new weekly module will open in Canvas each Monday and will include the week's reading materials, lecture slides, assignments, and other course resources.
- **Lecture Participation:** Active participation during our synchronous lecture meetings is important. Lectures will include polls, discussions, and other in-class activities. These activities account for **10% of your final grade**.
- **Lab Participation:** The laboratory portion of the course meets online via Zoom every Tuesday from 11:30 AM–2:20 PM. **Attendance and participation in the weekly lab meeting are required.**
- **Time Commitment:** This course includes approximately 4 hours of lecture and 3 hours of lab each week. In addition to scheduled class meetings, you should plan to spend **several hours each week** reviewing course material, completing assignments, and preparing for lecture and lab.
- **Late Work:** Staying on schedule is important because course material builds on concepts and skills from previous weeks. **Chapter homework** may be submitted up to **7 days after the due date**, with a **5% deduction for each day late**. After 7 days, chapter homework will no longer be accepted. Late penalties for chapter homework will not be applied during the first two weeks of the quarter. **Discussions, quizzes, and exams must be submitted by the stated deadline and will not be accepted late.**

Attendance Policy

Punctual attendance is expected at every class meeting. Please join Zoom a few minutes before the scheduled start time so that you are ready to participate when class begins. Students who arrive late may miss participation activities and may not receive credit for activities completed before they join.

Camera Use: Students are strongly encouraged to keep their cameras on during Zoom meetings whenever possible. Seeing one another helps create a more engaging and interactive classroom environment, particularly during discussions and group activities. I understand that there may be circumstances when using a camera is not possible.

Recordings: Lecture and lab meetings will **not be recorded to protect student privacy**. If you miss class, you are responsible for reviewing the course materials and catching up on missed work.

Lab Attendance: Attendance and active participation during lab are required. Important background information and instructions will be provided during the scheduled lab meeting. Students will work together in Zoom breakout rooms but must complete and submit their **own individual work**. Students must **check in with the instructor before leaving the lab meeting**

If You Miss a Class or Lab: If you miss a lecture, in-class activities **cannot be made up**; however, your **two lowest in-class activity scores will be dropped**. For labs, your **lowest lab score will be dropped**. Please note that **more than two lab absences may result in being dropped from the course**.

Important Dates

- October 4th: Last Day for Adds
- October 4th: 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 13th: Last day to drop with a "W" Drops after this date will result in an "F"
- November 26-29: Thanksgiving holiday – no classes; offices closed
- December 7-10: 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 grade thresholds will not be raised. Depending on overall exam performance and difficulty, I may lower the thresholds at the end of the quarter. Any adjustment will only benefit students.

Grading Policies

Breakdown of course grading components for lecture (77%) and lab (23%) with associated weight percentages.

- **Lecture (77 %)**
 - Active Learning Assignments in Class: 10%
 - Discussions: 5%
 - Online Homework: 9%
 - Quizzes: 8%
 - Midterm Exams 27%
 - Final Exam: 18%:
- **Lab (23%):**
 - Pre-Lab assignments (6%)
 - Lab assignments (12%)
 - Lab Exam (5%)

Description of Assignments

Lecture (77%)

- **Active Learning Assignments in Class (10%):** During our synchronous lecture meetings, you will participate in polls, breakout-room discussions, problem-solving activities, and other active-learning exercises. These activities are designed to reinforce course concepts and prepare you for quizzes and exams. The four lowest active-learning assignment scores will be dropped. There are no make-ups for missed in-class activities.
- **Online Homework (9%):** Chapter homework will be completed through Canvas and is generally due Sundays at 11:59 PM. Homework may be submitted up to **7 days late with a 5% deduction for each day late**. Late penalties will not be applied during the first two weeks of the quarter.
- **Canvas Discussions (5%):** Throughout the course, you will complete written discussion assignments in Canvas by responding to posted prompts and sharing your ideas with classmates. 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 completed in Canvas and will primarily consist of multiple-choice questions. Each quiz is worth 20 points, although the number of questions may vary. The lowest quiz score will be dropped. Quiz due dates are firm, and late submissions will not be accepted.
- **Midterm Exams (27%):** There will be **three midterm exams, each worth 9%** of your final grade. Exams will be completed in Canvas. Exam due dates are firm.
- **Final Exam (18%):** The cumulative final exam will be completed in Canvas during the final week of the quarter. You will have 2 hours and one attempt to complete the 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 10th, 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 (23%)

- **Pre-Lab Assignments (6%):** Pre-lab assignments are completed in Canvas before the scheduled lab meeting and are designed to prepare you for that week's lab. **Pre-lab due dates are firm, and late submissions will not be accepted.** The lowest pre-lab score will be dropped.
- **Lab Assignments (12%):** Lab assignments are based on activities completed during the scheduled synchronous lab sessions. Students are expected to arrive on time and complete the synchronous activities. Students will work collaboratively during portions of the lab but are responsible for completing and submitting their **own individual work**.
- **Laboratory Exam (5%):** A lab exam will be given near the end of the quarter and completed in Canvas. It will assess your understanding of the concepts, methods, and skills covered during the laboratory portion of the course.

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

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Use Policy

Artificial intelligence (AI) tools such as ChatGPT, Gemini, and similar tools may be used as **learning aids** in this course. For example, you may use AI to help explain a concept, review material, or generate additional practice questions.

However, AI may **not be used to generate answers or complete graded work on your behalf**, including homework, Canvas discussions, quizzes, exams, pre-lab assignments, lab assignments, or the lab exam, unless I specifically state that AI use is permitted for a particular assignment.

You are responsible for the accuracy and originality of all work you submit. Unauthorized use of AI on graded work may be considered a violation of De Anza College's Academic Integrity Policy.

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

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

Th 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM via Zoom.

The Office Hours Zoom meeting can be accessed through the Zoom link in the left-hand navigation menu in Canvas.

Chem 10 Fall 2026 Lab and Lecture Tentative* Schedule

Week 1	Tuesday 9/22	Lecture: Introductions and syllabus, Chemistry (Chapter 1) Lab: Scheduled Lab Meeting
	Thursday 9/24	Lecture: Chemistry continued (Chapter 1)
Week 2	Tuesday 9/29	Lecture: Atoms (Chapter 2) Lab: Scheduled Lab Meeting
	Thursday 10/1	Lecture: Atoms continued (Chapter 2)
Week 3	Tuesday 10/6	Lecture: Atomic Structure (Chapter 3) Lab: Scheduled Lab Meeting
	Thursday 10/8	Lecture: Atomic Structure continued (Chapter 3)
Week 4	Tuesday 10/13	Lecture: Chemical Bonds (Chapter 4) Lab: Scheduled Lab Meeting
	Thursday 10/15	Lecture: Chemical Bonds continued (Chapter 4)
Week 5	Tuesday 10/20	Lecture: Chemical Accounting (Chapter 5) Lab: Scheduled Lab Meeting
	Thursday 10/22	Lecture: Chemical Accounting continued (Chapter 5)
Week 6	Tuesday 10/27	Lecture: Chemical Accounting continued (Chapter 5) Lab: Scheduled Lab Meeting
	Thursday 10/29	Lecture: Chemical Accounting continued (Chapter 5)
Week 7	Tuesday 11/3	Lecture: Gases, Liquids, Solids, and Intermolecular Forces (Chapter 6) Lab: Scheduled Lab Meeting
	Thursday 11/5	Lecture: Gases, Liquids, Solids, and Intermolecular Forces continued (Chapter 6)
Week 8	Tuesday 11/10	Lecture: Acids and Bases (Chapter 7) Lab: Scheduled Lab Meeting
	Thursday 11/12	Lecture: Acids and Bases continued (Chapter 7)
Week 9	Tuesday 11/17	Lecture: Oxidation and Reduction (Chapter 8) Lab: Scheduled Lab Meeting
	Thursday 11/19	Lecture: Oxidation and Reduction (Chapter 8)
Week 10	Tuesday 11/24	Lecture: Nuclear Chemistry (Chapter 11) Lab: Scheduled Lab Meeting
	Thursday 11/26	Thanksgiving Holiday – No classes
Week 11	Tuesday 12/1	Lecture: Nuclear Chemistry continued (Chapter 11) and Energy (Chapter 15) Lab: Scheduled Lab Meeting
	Thursday 12/3	Lecture: Energy continued (Chapter 15)
Week 12	Week of December 7 th	<i>Final Exam will be available On Canvas. Must be completed by Thursday, December 10th at 11:59 pm. Grades will be finalized on Friday</i>
	Final Exam	

****This schedule is tentative. Dates and topics are subject to change.***

Midterm exam dates and other assignment deadlines will be announced in Canvas.

Student Learning Outcome(s):

- 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:

11:30 AM - 1:30 PM

Zoom TH