

## Welcome to CHEM 201A, General College Chemistry I A blended class (part in-class, part online) CRN 70119

Dr. Greg Baxley    Office # 2306    546-3100 ext. 2669    [gbaxley@cuesta.edu](mailto:gbaxley@cuesta.edu)

This class is a blended class, meaning that there are weekly meetings for lab and problem solving in addition to a three hour time commitment per week for learning material online in place of lecture. The three hours is in addition to the time that will be necessary for reading, completing homework, and answering lab questions. Make sure that you are suited for online learning by taking a readiness survey at <http://www.cuesta.edu/student/aboutacad/distance/survey.htm> and reading the results. Are you a disciplined, self-motivated, and online-savvy student? If so, this class may be for you!

**The course is designed for students who have been successful in previous chemistry courses, and requires diligent study habits, good attendance, and a positive attitude.**

This class is a heavy load and is similar to a part time job, so schedule your time appropriately. Many successful students report that they commit 7 hours in class plus 10 hours out of class for Chem 201A alone. You may be overwhelmed if you have 16 units and work 15 or more hours a week. The online experience

The mandatory class meeting times are **Tuesdays 3:30-7:20 pm starting in 3306**, along with 3 hours of online participation each week, plus additional time for homework and reading.

**Is Blended/Distance Learning for You?** Before you enroll in a distance learning class, students need to make an honest assessment of their level of personal discipline and ability for independent learning style that an online course requires. While there are mandatory class meetings with lecture and group work, much of the time you will be working on your own and teaching yourself with the help of computer software, internet forum discussion questions, tutorials, and videos. You have to be proficient with and enjoy working with computers. Please take the following exploratory [self assessment survey](#) and judge for yourself.

**Necessary Computer Equipment/Skills.** You will need to purchase a **Mastering Chemistry access code** and to activate a **student Canvas\* account** (free). You must have a computer, either a PC with a recent version of Windows, or a Mac, as well as internet access and you're my.cuesta.edu e-mail account. Specific requirements are at [http://www.cuesta.edu/student/aboutacad/distance/faqs\\_technical.html](http://www.cuesta.edu/student/aboutacad/distance/faqs_technical.html). You will need an internet connection to complete the online lessons and access the class web page. Computer skills required are downloading and printing documents, using your Cuesta email account, accessing your Canvas account, posting discussion questions, watching videos, and using Mastering Chemistry. Additional Mastering Chemistry computer software requirements can be found at the [Mastering Chemistry site](#), and essential technology in general is at the [Cuesta College technology site](#). Assistance with basic computer skills is not provided. The course Canvas site will be available starting the week prior to the first day of class.

**\*Canvas:** this is a learning management system like Moodle or Blackboard, and is the soon to be adopted standard at Cuesta College and most other community colleges in CA. I'm just learning Canvas, so I beg for your patience!

**Attendance and Participation.** Students must attend the first class meeting on **Tuesday August 22**. In addition, students must activate their Canvas and Mastering Chemistry accounts to complete assignments that will be due on **Monday, August 28**.

Each weekly meeting will consist of a 2 hour 50 minute lab experiment and a 50 minute classroom meeting that will consist of problem solving, quizzes, exams, or mini-lectures.

**Contact:** Email ([gbaxley@cuesta.edu](mailto:gbaxley@cuesta.edu)) is a good way to contact me, but Canvas forum posts are the best way to ask questions related to HW or course material. Canvas posts are usually answered within 12 hours, usually much less.

**Office Hours:** both online or in person **TBA**

**Prerequisites:** Math 27 or intermediate algebra, **AND** Chem 210FL (grade of "C" or better)

**Required Supplies:** Mastering Chemistry Online HW, \$50 online [http://www.pearsoncustom.com/ca/cuesta\\_chem201/Chemistry, A Molecular Approach](http://www.pearsoncustom.com/ca/cuesta_chem201/Chemistry, A Molecular Approach), N. Tro Prentice Hall, 2014 4<sup>th</sup> ed. or 3<sup>rd</sup> edition OK. Link: [Text info](#)  
Chemistry 201A Lab Manual and Course Packet available in Cuesta bookstore  
Canvas account (free) <https://auth.cuesta.edu/idp/Authn/UserPassword>  
scientific calculator **non-programmable** for exam and quizzes with Exponential notation (EE or EXP on most calculators,) and logs (LOG and LN). No TI-8X series calculators for exams or quizzes.

**Course Description:** Presents the first semester of a one-year course intended primarily for science and engineering majors in the fundamental principles of chemistry. Topics covered include kinetic-molecular treatment of gases, atomic structure and the periodic law, thermochemistry, chemical bonding, correlation of structure with properties, quantitative relationships in chemical reactions, laboratory activities, and chemical formulas and equations.

**Student learning outcomes:** Upon completion of this course, a student should be able to:

1. Describe the chemical and physical properties of a chemical substance based on the atomic and molecular structure including orbital theory, the type of chemical bond, and the shape of the molecule.
2. Evaluate and interpret numerical and chemical scientific information.
3. Solve stoichiometry problems, including mass/mass, mass/volume, and volume/volume relationships.
4. Communicate chemical concepts through the use of molecular formulas, structural formulas, and names of compounds
5. Perform laboratory experiments based on gravimetric, volumetric, qualitative and instrumental analysis techniques and effectively utilize the appropriate experimental apparatus.

**Assistance:** I am here to help you learn and enjoy the course material. If you are having trouble, please contact me early, and often. If you cannot come to office hours, please use Canvas forums, or call or email with your questions. I encourage relevant questions during in-class periods.

Tutorial services are provided to students and can be found at the following link:

[http://www.cuesta.edu/student/servs\\_classes/ssc/tutorial\\_services/](http://www.cuesta.edu/student/servs_classes/ssc/tutorial_services/)

**Withdrawal:** If you discontinue the course for ANY reason, you are responsible for making an official withdrawal.

**Evaluation:**

Homework Quizzes: Chemistry is best learned by regularly practicing problems. Short quizzes with problems very similar to HW problems are designed to motivate you to keep up with the reading and to complete the homework to the level of understanding. Your lowest quiz score will be dropped. There are no early or make up quizzes unless you must miss class for mandatory Cuesta team or course events, or for legally required absences (like jury duty).

Homework: Assignments of required and suggested problems will be provided on the course website for each chapter and will be assigned via Mastering Chemistry. The required problems represent the bare minimum; you are strongly encouraged to answer the suggested problems for extra practice. Think of it as a challenge to get them all right eventually. Don't slack off and skip the suggested HW. Don't let others do your homework for you; do some practice on your own.

Exams: There will be three exams throughout the term (see schedule) and a comprehensive final exam. Make up exams will only be considered for absences with prior approval. At the instructor's discretion, the make-up midterm may be administered during finals week.

Labs: Most labs have a prelab assignment that must be completed before the lab starts, plus data and report sheets. Incomplete prelabs may result in dismissal from that lab. There are no make up labs, but the lowest lab score will be dropped. Students who miss 3 or more labs will be ineligible to earn a passing grade in the class (C or above) per department policy.

**Approximate Point Distribution:**

			<u>Approx %</u>
Quizzes (top 9 of 10)	(20 pts ea)	180	15%
HW		130	10%
Midterms	(100 pts ea)	300	24%
Lab assignments	(25 pts ea)	330	25%
Final		<u>300</u>	<u>24%</u>
<i>Approximate</i> Point Total		1240	

**Approximate Letter Grades**

A-/A	90.00-100%
B-/B/B+	80.00-89.99%
C/C+	<b>72.00</b> -79.99%
D	<b>65.00</b> -71.99%
F	below 65%

**Plus/Minus grades:** Cuesta College allows for +/- grading, which will be used in borderline cases, usually based on the final exam score (state law does not allow grades of "C-" at CA Community Colleges). Plus/minus grades will be earned for totals of approximately 78-82% and 88-92%.

**Classroom Etiquette:** Please be considerate of your other classmates. Some students are easily distracted, so I ask that you arrive on time, ready to learn, and do not depart early. Students who disrupt the class will be asked to leave. Each student has a different pace and style of solving problems. Since a portion of the class will consist of group problem solving, it is important to be kind and patient with others. I will try to model appropriate behavior. Please support your classmates. Please refrain from talking while I am speaking to the class. No texting during class. Audio or video recording is acceptable with a permission form.

**Academic Honesty:** Academic dishonesty in any form, including plagiarism, either party of copying HW or labs, falsifying lab data, or unauthorized aids on exams, will not be tolerated. Do not copy anyone else's work! This is not learning, it is cheating. If you violate the academic honesty policy, you may receive a "0" for the assignment AND an equivalent assignment. Be sure to give proper citations when quoting or paraphrasing sources of information. Enter all calculations into your own calculator. See the Cuesta College schedule for official student conduct policies.

While you are encouraged to study in groups, assignments turned in must represent your own work, which means your own thoughts in your own words. No one learns effectively by merely copying someone else's paper.

**Regular and Effective Instructor Contact** will be met through the weekly class meetings, threaded discussion forums; announcements to students; and office hours

**Authenticating Student Identity** will be conducted through the use of the Learning Management System, Canvas and Mastering Chemistry, each of which requires students to log into the program using a secure login and password to access. You must use your official Cuesta College email address for Mastering Chemistry (like [marie\\_curie@my.cuesta.edu](mailto:marie_curie@my.cuesta.edu))

**Netiquette and Online Course Participation**

Use respectful and professional language in your forum discussions. Respect the learning progress of your peers.

Please do not use texting language, lol.

Emoticons are acceptable ways to show emotion.

Avoid ALL CAPS as they come across like YOU'RE SCREAMING.

You are expected to read all forum posts.

You are to make at least of 10 posts or responses with specific details in the Canvas discussion forum (called *Piazza*) this term. Do not provide exact answers in your posts.

All messages are public, so be professional and courteous when you post.

Make your posts and replies specific to a particular problem or issue.

Complete sentences and thoughts are mandatory for forum posts.

You must log into Canvas and Mastering Chemistry at least once per week.

**Technical Issues?** For issues related to accessing Cuesta's Canvas Site email: [support@my.cuesta.edu](mailto:support@my.cuesta.edu). Mastering Chemistry technical issues are best resolved by clicking the appropriate links in the MC system.

**Attendance/Drop/Withdraw Policy.** Students will be dropped if more than two class periods are missed, or if their MC or Canvas accounts are not activated or not used for any period longer than 14 consecutive days. Cannot earn a C or higher if 3 or more labs are missed. If you decide to withdraw, you must do so according to Cuesta's drop policy.

[http://www.cuesta.edu/student/aboutacad/acad\\_policies/dropcourse.html](http://www.cuesta.edu/student/aboutacad/acad_policies/dropcourse.html)

**Note:** If you have any special concerns or disabilities that could affect your learning, please see me or contact DSPS at 546-3148 as soon as possible. DSPS testing forms must be submitted at least 2 days prior to testing.

Fall 2017 Blended Schedule. The schedule in Canvas will be the most current.

<b>week</b>	Chapter and topic	Lab experiment	<i>notes</i>
<b>1</b>	Ch 1, science and stuff	Safety, Check in, Exp #1	<b>Work assigned this week!</b>
<b>2</b>	Ch 2 what is stuff made of?	Exp 2: Density	
<b>3</b>	Ch 3 measuring reactions	Exp 3: Hydrates	<b>9/3 Sunday: Drop w/o W</b>
<b>4</b>	Ch 4 chemical reactions	Exp 4: Precipitates	
<b>5</b>	Ch 4 chemical reactions	Exp 5: Chemical Reactions	
<b>6</b>	Ch 4 and Acids/bases	Exp 6: Acids and Bases	
<b>7</b>	Ch 6 thermo 1		<b>Exam 1 Tuesday 10/3</b>
<b>8</b>	Ch 6 Thermo 2		<b>No class Tuesday 10/10</b>
<b>9</b>	Ch 7 electrons and light	Exp 8: Heat of Reaction	
<b>10</b>	Ch 8 periodic properties	Exp 9: Hess's Law	
<b>11</b>	Ch 9 chemical bonding I		<b>Exam 2 Tuesday 10-31</b>
<b>12</b>	Ch 10 chemical bonding II	Exp 10: Electronic Spectroscopy	
<b>13</b>	Ch 10 chemical bonding II	Exp 11: Molecular Models	<b>11/12 Deadline drop w/ W</b>
<b>14</b>	Ch 5 gases	Exp 12: Computer Models	
<b>15</b>	Ch 11 solids and liquids	Exp 13: Gas Laws	
<b>16</b>	Ch 12 solutions	Exp 14: Solubility, Check out	<b>Exam 3 Tuesday 12-5</b>
<b>17</b>	Review	final review in lab session	
<b>18</b> 12/18-12/22	<b>Final Exam</b> the final is cumulative Tuesday, December 19 4:30 – 6:30 pm <i>Please don't ask for a different final exam time</i>		
This schedule is subject to change. Changes will be announced in class and posted to the website.			

## No Questions Asked Coupons (NQA)

### ***NQA Coupon 2*** **No Questions Asked**



*This coupon entitles you to turn in one assignment up to one meeting day late without penalties. May be used for homework and lab reports. Attach to the late assignment*

Print name \_\_\_\_\_

Assignment \_\_\_\_\_ lab: \_\_\_\_\_

Sign here \_\_\_\_\_

Spring 2016

### ***NQA Coupon 1*** **No Questions Asked**



*This coupon entitles you to turn in one assignment up to one meeting day late without penalties. May be used for homework and lab reports. Attach to the late assignment*

Print name \_\_\_\_\_

Assignment \_\_\_\_\_ lab: \_\_\_\_\_

Sign here \_\_\_\_\_

Spring 2016

The NQA coupon allows you to turn in an assignment late, it does not excuse you from doing the assignment.

#### **Staple coupon to front of the assignment when you turn it in.**

Two coupons per student per semester. I keep track, so don't bother making more coupons.

For Mastering Chemistry assignments, I will add about 48 hours to your due date. You can do the MC work at any time, meaning you can enter answers into MC the day after the assignment is due, and give me the NQA coupon the next week or simply send an email.

For labs, the lab would be due at the beginning of the next lab period (one to two weeks after the original due date).

Any other assignment is due one week after the original due date.

Give the NQA and assignment directly to instructor. Do not put it in a stack with other papers or it could easily get misplaced.

You must turn in the missed assignment one class period after it is due, along with the coupon.

Not accepted for Prelab assignments.