

**PS Chemistry Regents S541
2016 - 2017
Mrs. Scirbona**

Course Description:

PHYSICAL SETTING - CHEMISTRY

Code: S541 Full Year (10, 11) (1 Credit) (rank weight 1.00)

Prerequisite: Average of 75 or Better in a Regents Science Course. Successful Completion of Geometry and Concurrently Enrolled In Algebra 2 and Trigonometry. Students enrolled in 2N need permission from the district coordinator.

TEXTBOOK: Buthelezi, Thandi. New York Chemistry: Matter and Change. Columbus, OH: Glencoe/McGraw-Hill, 2009.

Regents Chemistry is an introductory course, which covers the fundamental topics of chemistry. Some of the topics included are: chemical bonding, acids and bases, the gas laws, stoichiometry, and electrochemistry. A more comprehensive list of topics to be covered is attached and can also be found in the WCSD course handbook. The objectives of this course are to have students attain an understanding of chemical principles and to demonstrate competence in solving chemical problems.

The Goals of this Course:

1. To learn about chemical principles and apply them to real world problems.
2. To develop and improve laboratory skills and techniques.
3. To develop and enhance general problem-solving skills.
4. To prepare to pass the NYS Regents Exam in Chemistry.

Grading:

All tests, quizzes, homework and labs are assigned a certain number of points. Each student's grade is calculated by dividing the number of points earned by the number of points possible. The percentage of points for each quarter breaks down to approximately: tests and quizzes – 80%, labs – 10%, homework/class work – 10%. The final average will be an average of all four marking periods and the NYS Regents exam grade.

1. **Tests** – Major unit exams will be announced in advance. They are usually given at the completion of each major unit. Exams may be withheld if prior work, especially lab work, is incomplete.
2. **Quizzes** – Quizzes may be based on homework, class work and lab work. Quizzes may or may not be announced in advance.
3. **Labs** – Each student must submit a written lab report for each laboratory exercise done in class. These reports will be graded. The specific format and grading rubric for all reports will be provided.
4. **Homework** – Homework will be assigned regularly and it may or may not be graded. If an assignment is to be graded, it will be collected at the beginning of class on the day it is due. **No late homework will be accepted.**
5. **Class work** – Class work may or may not be collected and graded. Graded class work will be included in the 10% homework average. Since quizzes are based on class discussion, lab work, and notes taken in class, quiz grades may reflect the work done in class.

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Requirements:

1. MATERIALS - Each student should have a separate notebook for chemistry. A three ring binder with plenty of loose leaf paper is suggested. It is also recommended that each student have a **scientific calculator** which should be brought to class each day.
2. Students are expected to come to class physically and mentally prepared to work. This includes arriving on time with notebooks, pens, pencils and a calculator.
3. Each student is required to prepare a written lab report for each laboratory exercise. The requirements for lab reports are described in a separate handout. **It should be noted that any student who does not complete the required number of lab hours will be barred from taking the Regents exam in June.**
4. It is recommended that students **spend time daily studying chemistry**. This may include reviewing notes, solving problems or reading the textbook. Remember, it is easier to keep up than to catch up!
5. ATTENDANCE – In order to be successful in Regents Chemistry, students must attend class regularly. Students are responsible for all work missed during absences. This includes labs, which can only be made up after school by appointment. All missed work should be made up within the same number of days after the student returns as was the absence period (i.e. if a student is legally absent for two days, any missed work needs to be completed within two days of the student's return). Any work not made up may result in a zero for that work. It is the student's responsibility to find out what work they missed while absent. If a student is absent one day before a test, he or she is expected to take the test on the scheduled day, as tests are announced in advance. If a student is absent on the day of a test, he or she will be allowed to make up the test on the day of their return to school only if documentation of a legal absence is provided. Otherwise the student will receive a grade of 0 for the test.
6. Be sure to ask questions when you don't understand something – you are probably not alone! I am here to help.

Parent/Teacher Communication:

Parent contact is accomplished through the usual channels, i.e. progress reports and report cards. Should you need to contact me, the most efficient way to do so is via email at: bobbi.scirbona@wcsdny.org. I can also be reached at school at 298-5100 ext 31070. Please leave a message, including a number where you may be reached, and I will return your call as soon as possible.

Please sign and return this page to indicate that you have read the course requirements and expectations for Regents Chemistry.

Student Name – please print

Period

Student Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Name – please print

Parent/Guardian Name – please print

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian preferred email

Parent/Guardian preferred phone number