

## Ch 1a General Information and Course Syllabus

### Course Instructor – Nathan S. Lewis

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Professor Lewis will plan the curriculum, deliver the lectures, and write the examinations. Any feedback regarding the overall nature, content, and pace of the course should be directed to him.

### Course Coordinator / Head TA – Minna A. Schwan

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The Course Coordinator / Head TA is responsible for all course logistics and website maintenance. Questions about adding/dropping, changing sections, and other administrative issues should go to the head TA.

### Head Grader - TBD

The head grader is responsible for coordinating the grading for the course. Questions about correcting grading errors, submitting late assignments and asking for extensions should go to the head grader.

### Classes

Professor Lewis lectures on Mondays and Tuesdays at 11 AM in Baxter Lecture Hall, and teaching assistants lead recitation sections on Thursdays at 11 AM in various rooms. Your course schedule shows the location of your section.

If there are any changes to the class/section schedule, we will announce the changes in class, by e-mail, and on the course Moodle.

### Texts

Principles of Modern Chemistry, D.W. Oxtoby, H.P. Gillis, & A. Campion; Thomson Brooks/Cole Publishing, 6<sup>th</sup> edition (2008). nickname: OGC

*(Feel free to use the 8<sup>th</sup> edition. However, please note that the page references on the schedule below will be towards the 6<sup>th</sup> edition)*

Chemical Bonds: An Introduction to Atomic and Molecular Structure, H.B. Gray, University Science Books (1994)

### Grades

#### *Problem Sets*

Weekly problem sets will be assigned. Sets are available on the course Moodle (*see page 3*). Selected solutions will be posted no earlier than three days after the due date, except for those scheduled during the midterm and the final periods. No material will be posted during those times to assure that students taking the exam during the beginning of the exam periods will have the same resources available to them as those who wait until the end of the exam periods. Problem sets are due the following Friday at 4 PM in the drop-box next to Lloyd. Some problems are designated “no collaboration,” which means just that! You must do these problems individually and may not discuss the problems or check answers with other students.

All material, including problem sets, must be completed and turned in for grading; otherwise, you will fail this course! ***Problem sets turned in late will receive reduced or no credit, but they must be turned in to pass the course.*** Unless you have received an extension from the head grader, point deductions will follow the schedule outlined on page 2.

## Grades (continued from page 1)

### Quizzes and Exams

Biweekly quizzes will be administered during the course. These quizzes will be made available Fridays in the bottom cabinet of the Ch 1 drop-box (Quizzes 2, 3, 4, 5) or during class (Quizzes 1 & 1 Repeat). Copies of each quiz will remain in the bottom cabinet of the Ch 1 drop-box so that you may pick up a quiz at any time. All quizzes are due on Tuesdays at 8 PM in the drop-box next to Lloyd House, with the exception of Quiz 1. **Quiz 1 is due on Tuesday September 26 at 11 AM.** The quizzes will NOT be available online. Point deductions for late work will follow the same schedule as the problem sets. **As with the problem sets, all quizzes must be turned in; otherwise, you will fail the course.**

Quiz 1 is a unique case. This quiz is administered at the beginning and end of the course and covers a wide range of chemistry problems that apply to our everyday world. The better of your two scores on Quiz 1 will be counted in place of the lowest score amongst your *first five problem sets* and four other quizzes.

One midterm and one final exam will be handed out for the course. The final is comprehensive, although it will stress material presented after the midterm exam.

### Late Work Schedule

As previously mentioned, late work may be accepted, but your score will be reduced unless you have received an extension from the **head grader**. Brief extensions will be granted only under extenuating circumstances. *Oversleeping and forgetting the due date, time, and location will not be considered for extensions.*

Point deductions for problem sets and quizzes will follow this schedule:

- ❑ Between 5 minutes and 24 hours after the due date and time, your score will be reduced by 40%
- ❑ Between 24 hours and 48 hours after the due date and time, your score will be reduced by 70%
- ❑ Beyond 48 hours, your score will be reduced by 100%, however ***you must still complete and turn in all of the problem sets and quizzes to pass the course!!! In addition, you must score at least as high as the class average (before the 100% deduction).***

Point deductions for exams will follow this schedule:

- ❑ **Beyond 5 minutes, your exam will not be accepted.**

### Submission of Work

Do not turn in any work to your recitation-section teaching assistant. All problem sets, quizzes, and examinations should be submitted using the slots of the Ch 1 Box, which is located next to Lloyd House near the mailboxes. The Ch 1 Box does NOT have separate slots for problem sets and quizzes/exams. You may use either one of the top two slots. ***You must put your name, section number and recitation section teaching assistant's name on all work you submit.*** Please write legibly and solve problems in a clear and logical manner, making sure to note your final answer – the graders reserve the right to not grade unintelligible work. Also, please arrange the problems in numerical order – starting each problem on a fresh page and stapling at the end is an excellent way to keep your work ordered and neat.

### Resubmission of Work

If you feel a problem was graded incorrectly or unfairly, you may write a note on that particular problem set/quiz/exam and resubmit it in the drop-box, or you may email the **head grader**.

### The Honor System

You are encouraged to help each other understand the concepts of the homework material. However, plagiarism of solutions from other students, textbooks, or any other source is a violation of the Honor Code. You must personally complete all work you turn in under your name, and you must be able to reconstruct this work on your own at the instructor's discretion. **Consulting problem sets, quizzes, exams or their respective solutions is prohibited.**

## **The Honor System (continued from page 2)**

As previously mentioned, some questions on the problem sets will be designated as “no collaboration.” These specific problems, as well as all quizzes and examinations, must be solved with no discussions whatsoever amongst students. This means that you may feel free to consult library books or online material. You are not allowed to compare final answers, or notes regarding any aspect of the problem with fellow class members or any other undergraduate at the university.

Exams may be broken up into “open book” and “closed book” sections at the instructor’s designation. Open book sections designate those questions in which the student is allowed to use official course materials in answering the questions. Official course materials are limited to the two books (OGC and Gray), downloaded or printed copies of Professor Lewis’s lectures and *notes taken by you in class*. Official course materials **do not** include student-taken notes outside of class, or material passed out by recitation section teaching assistants. Calculators may be used, but only for computation and solving – not for storing information or recalling equations. Closed book sections designate those questions in which the student may only consult the material included within the quiz or exam itself. Again, calculators may be used, but only for computation and solving – not for storing information or recalling equations.

## **Recitation Sections and Teaching Assistants**

The recitation sections are smaller, discussion-oriented sessions where you may ask your teaching assistant questions about the subject material of the lectures or any other relevant topics you may find confusing. Each section will also address the types of problems you will encounter on problem sets, quizzes and exams. It is suggested that you do as much of the homework as possible before each recitation so that the discussion can focus on the topics of greatest difficulty.

Each teaching assistant holds office hours (see the Moodle for the schedule). Here students may get informal, one-on-one help. Students are not restricted to see the teaching assistant of their section – students may seek help from any teaching assistant during regularly scheduled office hours. The recitation teaching assistants will also lead five review sessions throughout the quarter, as shown on the schedule. These review sections are designed to provide students with a summary of the material before the quizzes are distributed. These reviews will be held at 9:00 PM in **Baxter lecture hall**, unless otherwise noted.

## **Resources**

### *9<sup>th</sup> Floor of Millikan Library*

Office hours will be held in the Teaching Resource Room on the 9<sup>th</sup> floor of Millikan library. Students may meet with teaching assistants to get help with assignments or other chemistry questions. The Ch 1 pick-up cabinet is located in the open study area on the 9<sup>th</sup> floor. In the cabinet you can pick up your problem sets, quizzes and exams (pending your authorization via the FERPA release form, found on the Ch 1a Moodle), and review reading material in addition to the required texts. The library is open for Ch 1 use 7 Am to Midnight, although the building may be locked after 5 PM. As an undergraduate student you will have automatic after-hours access to the library.

### *Library Reserve Materials*

Multiple copies of the OGC and Gray texts are available on reserve at Sherman Fairchild Library; you may use these for three hours at a time in the library and/or check them out overnight (11 PM – 8 AM).

### *Ch 1 Online*

The course Moodle page allows students to access useful information pertaining to the course. The syllabus, recitation section list, office hours, lecture notes and problem sets are available online. Additional supplemental materials are also available. Selected solutions to problem sets, quizzes and exams will be posted, except when this interferes with the midterm and final exam period. All downloadable material will be in .pdf format.