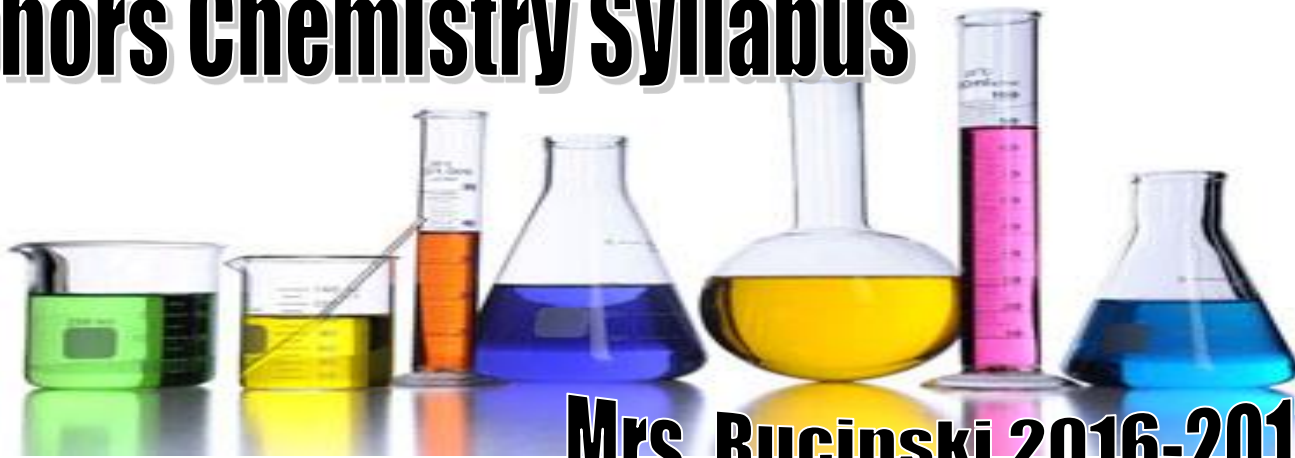


# Honors Chemistry Syllabus



**Mrs. Rucinski 2016-2017**

## Course Information:

Chemistry is the study of matter and its changes. The topics covered include measurement, metrics, graphing, lab safety, atomic structure and theory, chemical and physical changes, states of matter, periodicity, chemical bonding, equations, stoichiometry and acids and bases. This course is recommended for the college bound student. I hope that you are excited to take on all of this new and exciting material!

## Instructor Information:

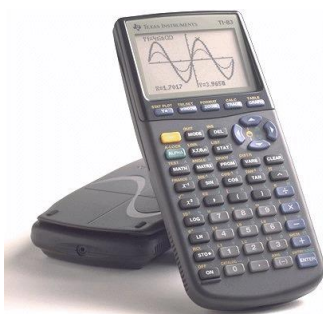
I want to help you succeed in this class! If you are in need of extra help, please come to me so that we can arrange a time to make it happen. I am here by 7:15 every morning and am more than willing to meet with you then. I can also arrange time after school if necessary.

If you need to get in touch with me outside of class time, you can email me at [jrucinski@bhsd228.com](mailto:jrucinski@bhsd228.com) or you can call my voice mail at 371-3600 ext. 3311. For the quickest response, please send me an email. You can also find useful information on my website at: [www.mrsru.weebly.com](http://www.mrsru.weebly.com).

## Materials:

*The following materials must be brought with you to class **DAILY**.*

- ✓ Your iPad
- ✓ Regular Notebook (strictly for Chemistry)
- ✓ Folder or Binder (strictly for Chemistry)
- ✓ Pen **AND** Pencil
- ✓ Calculator (YOUR PHONE DOES NOT COUNT!)

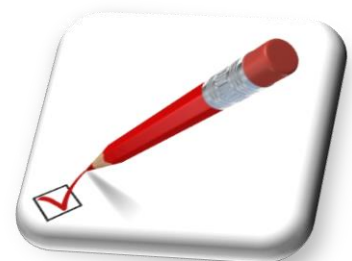


## Course Policies & Expectations:

1. BE RESPECTFUL. Not only do you need to be respectful of myself as your instructor, but also of your peers and their opinions and our classroom at all times.
2. You must be INSIDE the classroom **AND** making your way to your seat when the bell rings. If you enter the room after the bell you will be marked tardy.
3. Your electronic devices and headphones must be put away prior to entering the classroom. They are only to be utilized during designated classroom activities. During instructional time they are to be set to silent and placed out of sight. If you are on your device without permission you will be issued a consequence (1<sup>st</sup> offense= warning, 2<sup>nd</sup> offense= detention, 3<sup>rd</sup>+ offense= phone turned in to dean).
4. After the bell rings, immediately begin working on the warm-up question or journal entry on the board. This should be done in silence on your warm-up sheet.
5. Come prepared to class. You will only be allowed three hall passes per quarter and you need to have your pass with you to use it. Stop at your locker and use the bathroom during passing periods. Remaining hall passes will be worth extra credit at the end of each quarter.
6. Take pride in your work. Work that is turned in torn, dirty, sloppy, written or drawn on is unacceptable and will be returned for you to re-do.
7. Do not leave your seat while class is in session. Raise your hand if you need to sharpen a pencil or get a Kleenex. You must also remain in your seat until the bell rings at the end of the period. I will dismiss you, not the bell.
8. Pick up after yourself. Make sure that your desk area and the floor around you are clean before you leave. Make sure that the lab is left clean for the next class on lab days.
9. No eating or drinking will be allowed in the classroom. If you are caught with food or drink it will be thrown away and a consequence will be issued.
10. Academic dishonesty will NOT be tolerated. Students engaging in any form of copying, cheating, plagiarizing, etc. will be subject to very serious consequences. This goes for ALL assignments. If a student is caught copying off of the work of another student, both the student copying and the student sharing his or her work will be punished equally.  
**\*\*\*See Student/Parent Handbook for District 228 policies. \*\*\***
11. Do your best! I want you all to succeed and will do everything in my power to make that happen. It is up to you to give me your attention and energy for 55 minutes each day. I assure you that I will give you mine 😊

### **Consequences for not complying with policies and expectations:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> violation- verbal warning/parent phone call
- 2<sup>nd</sup> violation- detention and/or counselor referral
- 3<sup>rd</sup> violation (and beyond)- dean's referral



***\*For serious infractions, an immediate referral to the Dean's office will be given.***

## Absent Work:

1. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to see me about make-up work at the beginning of class when you return. In the case that your absence is excused, you will have two days for each day absent to turn in work that was assigned while you were gone without losing credit.
2. If you are absent the day before a scheduled test or quiz that you were aware of, you are still required to take it upon your return.
3. If you are absent the day an assignment is due, you must turn it in as soon as you return.

## Late Work:

It is your responsibility to get your work turned in ON TIME. Assignments turned in one day late will be graded for 50% credit. All other late work will not be accepted. Once an assignment has been graded and returned to the class, you may not submit it for credit.

## Assignments and Grading:

Grades will be available to parents and students through Power School. I encourage you to check these grades regularly so that there are no surprises at the end of the grading term.

There will be various assignments that will be given throughout this course. All assignments are based on a point system and will be weighted the same (except the midterm and final exams). The following examples are assignments that you can definitely expect in this class:

### Grading Scale:

<b>A</b>	<b>90-100</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>80-89</b>
<b>C</b>	<b>70-79</b>
<b>D</b>	<b>60-69</b>
<b>E</b>	<b>59 and below</b>

### ***Tests and quizzes***

You can expect a test at the end of each unit. Test questions will include material covered in notes, lab activities, classroom discussions, homework and other in-class assignments. Quizzes will be given throughout each unit as well to assess understanding of smaller concepts. Quizzes will usually be announced, but may also be unannounced if necessary.

At the end of each semester we will take a Midterm or Final Exam. These tests will be cumulative for the grading term that they cover. The midterm and final exam make up 20% of the overall grade for each semester.

### ***Labs and Projects***

An important part of understanding science comes from the application of concepts that we are covering in class. We will be spending a great deal of time working in the lab on activities that will require knowledge of the scientific process. Additionally, some lab activities will be inquiry based, requiring application of critical thinking skills to the task at hand.

### ***Homework and Classwork***

Homework and classwork is an important part of this course. Although I try not to give homework every night, there will be many times when we need to work on things outside of class in order to reinforce the information that we are learning in class. There will also be warm-up questions and journal entries during class that are graded each week.

### ***Extra Credit***

I believe that your grade should be a reflection of your chemistry knowledge. Therefore, I do not offer extra credit. Make it a priority to get all of the REGULAR CREDIT assignments completed!

## Schoology

Schoology is an online platform that we will use to support learning in this class. At the start of the school year you will be given an access code and instructions regarding how to use this platform.



## Remind

Remind is an app that I will utilize to send reminder messages to you and your parent/guardian. This will allow me to communicate important information quickly and efficiently. At the start of the school year you will be given an access code to sign-up for this messenger service. Make sure to share this with your parent/guardian as well!!



## Tardy Policy

All students are expected to come to school on time and to be in their classroom when the tardy bell rings. District 228 follows a strict policy for disciplinary action in regards to tardies, which are cumulative throughout the school year.

**1<sup>st</sup> violation- warning**

**2<sup>nd</sup> violation- detention**

**3<sup>rd</sup> violation- counseling referral**

**4<sup>th</sup> violation- dean's referral**

**5<sup>th</sup> violation- possible drop from class**

# We Have PRIDE

