

# Chemistry 30A Syllabus

Fall 2015

Laney College

Dr. Larry Schaleger, Instructor

**Course Name:** Introductory Chemistry

**Course Number:** Chemistry 30A

**Class Meeting Days and Times**

**Lecture (class code 41586):** Monday-Wednesday, 9:00 am-10:15 am (Room A239)

**Laboratory (41587):** Monday-Wednesday, 10:30 am – 11:45 am (Room A237)

**Prerequisite:** Math 201 or Math 210D (basic algebra)

**Instructor:** Dr. Larry Schaleger (aka Dr. Larry), [qubedude@aol.com](mailto:qubedude@aol.com); [www.laney.edu/wp/lshaleger](http://www.laney.edu/wp/lshaleger)

**Office hour:** Mondays, 11:45 am-12:45 pm or by arrangement

**Textbook:** McMurry, Hoeger, Peterson and Ballantine, “Fundamentals of General, Organic and Biological Chemistry”, 7<sup>th</sup> Edition, ISBN 9780321750839.

**Lab Manual:** Chem 30A Lab Manual, Laney IMC (optional)

**Required:** A non-programmable scientific calculator. Note: smart phone calculators are not acceptable.

**Attendance:** Required: missing 4 consecutive lectures will result in a grade of F.

**Class etiquette:** All cell phones, iPods, etc., must be turned OFF before entering the classroom.

**Course Description:** Basic principles of chemistry including quantitative problem-solving using basic algebra. Emphasis on the submicroscopic nature of matter, electron structure, periodic table, chemical reactions, stoichiometry, energy relationships, states of matter, solutions, acid-base chemistry, oxidation-reduction, and nuclear chemistry.

This course is taken by students seeking careers in the health-related professions including nursing, dietetics and agriculture. It is the prerequisite for Chem 30B, “Introductory Organic and Biological Chemistry”. This two-semester sequence will provide knowledge of basic principles of chemistry which are fundamental to an understanding of all of the life sciences.

Key descriptors: quantitative reasoning; scientific problem-solving.

**Learning Outcomes:**

1. Use dimensional analysis to solve quantitative problems; evaluate the results of calculations to make sure they are physically reasonable.
2. Clearly explain qualitative chemical concepts and trends.
3. Describe, explain, and model chemical and physical processes at the molecular level in order to explain macroscopic properties.
4. Perform laboratory techniques correctly using appropriate safety procedures.
5. Calculate experimental values from laboratory data and interpret the results.

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## Grading Policy and Method of Evaluation:

**Your final grade** will be based on midterm exams, quizzes, homework, laboratory reports, and a final exam. Details are found below. Your instructor's general policies are outlined here.

1. Neither makeup exams nor extra credit opportunities will be available.
2. If you miss more than two weeks of laboratory, you have failed the course.
3. The lecture begins at 9:00 am. Please make a habit of being on time.
4. If you are caught cheating (see below), you may face expulsion from the school and are likely to receive an F for the course.
5. You will lose points for turning in late laboratory reports or homework assignments.

**How to Study:** This course is worth 4 credit hours. Generally speaking, the student in a 4-credit hour course should plan to put in a minimum of 6 study hours per week. Let's be clear. To succeed in this class requires a minimum of...

## 6 to 8 hours of study per week!

If you are unable to make such a study commitment, you are wasting your time.

Learning is up to you. Your instructor is merely a facilitator. Nobody has ever learned chemistry by listening to your instructor's babble. One good learning technique involves working with peers. Peer learning opportunities will be afforded on occasion in both lecture and laboratory. Take advantage of these. Finding 'study buddies' among compatible classmates is highly recommended.

The textbook does not read like a novel. The material of a single chapter must be digested in stages. Don't expect to master a chapter's material in a single 8-hour cram session.

Your instructor is paid the big bucks to keep you on message and steer you in the right direction. Do not hesitate to ask questions in class, to take advantage of his office hour, or to communicate via email. **Your college education is important** – take advantage of every opportunity.

**Grading Details.** Your final grade is determined on the basis of a 1000-point scale as follows:

A: 895 points or more	Midterm exams (3) are 150 pts each =	450 pts
B: 795-894	Final exam	200
C: 695-794	Laboratory	200
D: 595-694	Homework and quizzes	<u>150</u>
F: 594 or fewer	Total	1000 pts

Exams are graded on a curve in which the median score is set at 75%, a zero counts 0% and a perfect paper is given 100%. If the median is greater than 75%, no adjustments are made. Quiz scores are not adjusted and your three lowest scores will not be counted. You may miss two laboratory experiments without being penalized. Making up missed labs is generally not possible. Requirements for lab reports will be provided. **If you are absent for three laboratories, you will fail the course.**

**Laboratory Dress Code.** Corrosive chemicals will be used in the laboratory. Therefore it is wise to wear clothing that covers your body. This means among other things that **no sandals or open-toed footwear** is allowed and **no bare shoulders**. Your instructor will determine when safety glasses are required, which is most of the time spent in the laboratory. Do not be the first to receive the dreaded **Red Card** for noncompliance.

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**Academic Honesty.** College students are expected to perform honestly and ethically in the execution of all aspects of the course. Your instructor enforces a zero tolerance policy regarding plagiarism, cheating, aiding and abetting dishonesty, forgery, and alteration of reports. Working on homework with peers is encouraged. However copying someone else's work or allowing someone else to do your work for you means only that you are cheating yourself of your college education. Students found cheating will likely receive a grade of F. If you feel you have been treated unfairly, you are advised to consult the Student Code Conduct which outlines your rights and procedures for resolving disputes.

**Student Code of Conduct.** The Student Code of Conduct is guided by the California Education Code. The Peralta Community College District upholds expectations regarding student standards of behavior, both academic and non-academic. In other words, if you mess up, expect disciplinary action.

**Rehabilitation Act of 1973,** Section 504, requires Laney College to make all programs accessible to qualified individuals with learning, physical or psychological disabilities. Any student feeling the need for accommodation based on a disability should contact your instructor privately.

**Early Withdrawal from Class.** Please check with your instructor before deciding to withdraw from the class. But be aware that the responsibility to drop the class is yours and yours alone. Do not expect your instructor to drop the class on your behalf. Students who fail to take this responsibility will receive a default grade of F.

## Important Dates

Monday, 21 August	First day of class
Sunday, 6 September	Last day to drop, get a refund, and NOT receive a grade of W
Monday, 7 September	Labor Day holiday – no classes
Wednesday, 11 November	Veterans Day holiday -- no classes
Sunday, 14 November	Last day to withdraw and receive a grade of W
Monday, 14 December	Final exam; all assignments are due