

ARE YOU IN THE RIGHT CHEMISTRY CLASS?

Use the following guidelines to direct yourself to the best chemistry course for your needs.

Step 1: What kind of student are you? What are your goals? What is your previous exposure to chemistry?

<i>What type of student are you?</i>	<i>You Should Take</i>
Never had Chemistry before	30A or 50;
Had Chemistry but forgot (within last 4 years)	30A or 50
Bio-manufacturing	30A (requirement for certificate)
Nursing, Allied Health	30A, maybe 30B
Pre-Med, Pre-Dental, Pre-pharmacy	1A, 1B, 12A, 12B (Note: 1A requires a strong math - background, and critical thinking skills)
Physical Therapy	1A, 1B
Physician Assistant (PA)	1A, maybe more
General Ed Science course	30A or 50 (don't try 1A)

Step 2: Use the descriptions below as guidelines to help you complete your goals.

<i>Chemistry class</i>	<i>Description</i>
CHEM 30A	This is an introductory Chemistry course. Introduction to Inorganic Chemistry has an allied health focus. This course is recommended for students who have never had a chemistry course and is designed for students interested in nursing or dental hygiene. It meets most prerequisites for these programs and is considered an introductory course in preparation for Chem 1A. CHEM 30A is not open for credit to students who have already completed CHEM 1A. The course is not as math intensive as CHEM 1A/B, though elementary algebra is required. The labs are less intense and do not require as much writing as CHEM 1A/B
CHEM 30B	Introduction to Organic Chemistry and Biochemistry, like CHEM 30A, has an allied health focus. Required by some nursing schools, the complete sequence 30A/B provides a comprehensive overview of General, Organic and Biochemistry. Note that CHEM 1A can serve as a prerequisite to 30B, as well as CHEM 30A.
CHEM 50	Beginning Chemistry. Similar topics to CHEM 30A with more math and problem solving emphasis. Preparatory course for CHEM 1A. Recommended for students who would like to refresh their memory, have never had a chemistry course, are preparing for a science degree, or wish to experience the joy of college chemistry class. (At Laney, this class is currently only taught during the summer months, primarily to HS students and is currently under consideration to not be offered in the future, but to only offer CHEM 30A)

<i>Chemistry class</i>	<i>Description</i>
CHEM 1A	THIS COURSE IS NOT CONSIDERED AN INTRODUCTORY CHEMISTRY CLASS! First semester of the year-long course General Chemistry, which is 1 st year college chemistry. The course has a heavy workload in math, writing, and critical thinking; there is a strong expectation of previous exposure to chemistry. Currently, 50 percent of students who start 1A either withdraw or receive a non-passing grade because they are underprepared for the rigors of the class. Students entering 1A are expected to take 1B.
CHEM 1B	Second semester of General Chemistry. Same workload as 1A, with math, writing, and critical thinking.
CHEM 12A/B	Organic Chemistry. 2 nd year college chemistry (aka sophomore chemistry). Heavy workload in theory and practice of organic chemistry. Laboratory portion requires large time commitment. Should not be attempted without a solid year of General Chemistry. (Chem 30A/B does not fulfill the prerequisite for this class)

General Advice

- Students **should not** take 2 chemistry classes at once!
e.g. Do not take 1A (prereq for 1B) and 1B at the same time
Do not take 1B (prereq for 12A) and 12A at the same time

Many students attempt to do this to “save” time. It rarely works and usually, in the end, takes more time.
- Many students who attempt three (3) or more science classes with labs have an extremely difficult time in our Chemistry courses and often end up dropping one or more of them to stay afloat.
- Please don't ask instructors to bend/break rules for them, such as (a) requesting of faculty to give incompletes instead of non-passing grades instead when they should simply withdraw. or (b) requesting of an instructor that their non-desirable passing grade be lowered to a non-passing grade so that they can try again for a better grade. This is against school policy, and the instructors will not do it.
- Students should finish prerequisite math before entering in a chemistry course. Do not attempt concurrent enrollment in the prerequisite math and chemistry class.