SYLLABUS: Technology & Society  

Chem:1050 (Spring 2015)

Instructor: Adam Brummett  
Office: E315 CB (Chemistry Building)  
e-mail: adam-brummett@uiowa.edu  
Office hours: Monday and Wednesday 12:00PM - 1:30PM (E231 CB) and by appointment

Location/Time: Lectures, E215 Chemistry Building (CB); Tue & Thu 11:00AM-12:15PM

Course Materials:
- Chemistry for Changing Times 14th Ed by J.W. Hill, T.W. McCreary
- Handheld calculator
- Course Website (ICON): icon.uiowa.edu

IMPORTANT: Programmable or graphing calculators are NOT ALLOWED during exams.

Co- or Prerequisite: none

Course Description: Exploration of societal and technological issues from a chemical perspective. The course emphasizes chemical and scientific literacy as a means to better understand topics like air and water (and the trace materials found in them that are referred to as pollutants); energy from natural sources (e.g., solar and renewable forms), from fossil fuels (like gas, oil and coal) and from nuclear fission; materials like plastics and polymers and their natural analogs, proteins and nucleic acids; and chemical reactivity and molecular inter-conversions from simple examples like combustion to complex instances like genetic engineering and the manufacture of drugs. Calculations and mathematical manipulations are minimal, and no college-level science preparation is required. This course is approved as a component of the General Education program of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Course Objectives: The student will be introduced to the language and basic principles of chemistry and application of these to the technology of today’s society. Critical thinking, analysis, and communication skills will be developed through class assignments and discussions.

Course Administration: Go to the Chemistry Center, room E225 CB, for add/drop signatures, make-up exam scheduling, and other administrative matters. Chemistry Center Hours: 8am-12pm and 1pm-5pm (M-Th); 8am-12pm and 12:30pm-4:30pm (F). Chemistry Center Manager: Ellie Keuter (319-335-1341, ellie-keuter@uiowa.edu)

Quizzes: Quizzes will be given during the class (see schedule on ICON). Questions will be 10 points each, multiple choice and cover course material (i.e. textbook, lecture notes, back of chapter questions, etc.) and is closed book/notes.

Examinations: There will be three total exams (two plus a comprehensive final). The exam dates are listed below along with tentative chapters to be covered. The first two exams will be held in E215 CB (in class). The location of the final exam will be announced later. Students
should bring a #2 pencil, their University ID, and a basic scientific calculator (programmable or graphing calculators are not allowed).

Exam #1: Feb 28th, 11:00AM-12:15PM – Chapters 1-8
Exam #2: Mar 31st, 11:00AM-12:15PM – Chapters 9-15
Final Exam: To be announced – Chapters 15-22 and Comprehensive

Make-up Exams: Students are expected to attend all scheduled events. You will have the opportunity for a make-up exam if your excuse for illness, mandatory religious obligations, University activity, etc. conforms to the University policy as explained in the Schedule of Courses. You must contact me as soon as an issue or conflict arises. Students may take one make-up exam per semester.

Grades: 3 exams and 9 quizzes will be graded (lowest quiz grade dropped)
The course grade will be based on the three highest of four scores (3 exams and the total of 8 quizzes). Plus/minus grading will be used for the final grade. Grading will be on a curve, the average will be approximately B+/C+.

College of Liberal Arts & Sciences Policies and Procedures

Electronic Communication

University policy specifies that students are responsible for all official correspondences sent to their University of Iowa e-mail address (@uiowa.edu). Faculty and students should use this account for correspondences (Operations Manual, III.15.2, k.11).

Accommodations for Disabilities

A student seeking academic accommodations should first register with Student Disability Services and then meet with the course instructor privately in the instructor's office to make particular arrangements. See http://sds.studentlife.uiowa.edu/ for more information.

Academic Honesty

All CLAS students or students taking classes offered by CLAS have, in essence, agreed to the College's Code of Academic Honesty: "I pledge to do my own academic work and to excel to the best of my abilities, upholding the IOWA Challenge. I promise not to lie about my academic work, to cheat, or to steal the words or ideas of others; nor will I help fellow students to violate the Code of Academic Honesty." Any student committing academic misconduct is reported to the College and placed on disciplinary probation or may be suspended or expelled (CLAS Academic Policies Handbook).
CLAS Final Examination Policies

The final examination schedule for each class is announced by the Registrar generally by the fifth week of classes. Final exams are offered only during the official final examination period. **No exams of any kind are allowed during the last week of classes.** All students should plan on being at the UI through the final examination period. Once the Registrar has announced the date, time, and location of each final exam, the complete schedule will be published on the Registrar's web site and will be shared with instructors and students. It is the student's responsibility to know the date, time, and place of a final exam.

Making a Suggestion or a Complaint

Students with a suggestion or complaint should first visit with the instructor (and the course supervisor), and then with the departmental DEO. Complaints must be made within six months of the incident (CLAS Academic Policies Handbook).

Understanding Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment subverts the mission of the University and threatens the well-being of students, faculty, and staff. All members of the UI community have a responsibility to uphold this mission and to contribute to a safe environment that enhances learning. Incidents of sexual harassment should be reported immediately. See the UI Office of the Sexual Misconduct Response Coordinator for assistance, definitions, and the full University policy.

Reacting Safely to Severe Weather

In severe weather, class members should seek appropriate shelter immediately, leaving the classroom if necessary. The class will continue if possible when the event is over. For more information on Hawk Alert and the siren warning system, visit the Department of Public Safety website.