Technology & Society (4:005): Spring 2010
Time: 11:30-12:20; M,W,F
Place: W128 CB
Professor: Dr. Irma Nydegger
Office: E325 CB
Phone: 384-1344
Email: irma-nydegger@uiowa.edu
Office Hrs: Monday, 1:30-4:30 (or by appt.)

*Announcements made in class will have precedence over this syllabus*

Chemistry Center
Room: E225 CB
Phone Number: 335-1341
Hours: 8-12 and 1-5 Mon -Thurs & 8-12 and 12:30-4:30 Fri
A representative of the department will handle all requests and paperwork relating to the course including lecture and discussion section changes, add-drop signatures, scheduling of makeup exams and other administrative matters. Complaint procedures and policies on cheating can also be obtained here. The Center keeps copies of class handouts and has alternate chemistry texts available for student checkout. The instructors of this course will not drop students. It is your responsibility to insure that all paperwork has been properly filed with the registrar’s office.

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 interconversions 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.

Course Objective
The student will be introduced to the language and basic principles of chemistry and application of these to the technology of today’s society.

Course Materials
Required:
Chemistry in Context: Applying Chemistry to Society, American Chemical Society, 6th Ed, handheld calculator with exponents, logarithms, square roots, etc.

Course Website
A website is available on ICON (http://icon.uiowa.edu) and has been designed as a resource to facilitate your success in this course. If you are currently enrolled in 4:005, you should be able to access the course website. If not, please alert the instructor of this course as soon as possible. This site will contain all of the information presented in this syllabus, abridged lecture notes; practice tests/study aids and announcements (including the time and location of exams, review sessions and make-up exams). In addition, you will be able to access and monitor your grades through the website. If there are important messages for the class, they will be posted on the website. However, The lecture will be the primary source of information for this course.

Lecture Notes
In general, copies of lecture notes will be made available via the ICON website. Efforts will be made so that these notes are available prior to lecture, but this may not always be possible. The instructor reserves the right to amend posted material with additional information. Students should come to each lecture session prepared to take notes.

Grading
This is considered an elementary level course according to the specifications given by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Accordingly, the following grade distribution recommended by CLAS will be employed:

**Grade % of Class**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>15</td>
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<td>B</td>
<td>34</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>40</td>
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<td>D</td>
<td>8</td>
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<td>F</td>
<td>3</td>
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</tbody>
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The +/- system will be employed in this course. Each grade category will be divided into thirds (except for A+), with students falling into the upper third receiving a “+”, while students that fall into the lower third will receive a “-”. A grade of A+ is considered special and only around 1% of any class is given this grade.

Additional information about the grade distribution can be found at the CLAS website: [http://www.clas.uiowa.edu/faculty/teaching/grading/grade_distributions.shtml](http://www.clas.uiowa.edu/faculty/teaching/grading/grade_distributions.shtml).

Please note that your grade is based entirely on your performance in the course versus the performance of the class as a whole. Consequently, it is important to monitor your grade compared to the average grade of the class. Individual scores which are higher than the class mean will likely earn a grade of an A or B, while scores that are lower than the mean will likely earn a C. Scores significantly lower than the mean will earn either a D or an F. The cumulative mean grade will shift as the population of the class changes and as additional points are accumulated.

Information to help you monitor your grade and estimate your standing in the class as the course progresses will be available on the course website (ICON). The final grade will be a composite of your unit exam scores, a comprehensive final, and graded homework. Individual assignments or bonus work will not be given under any circumstances.

3 unit exams @ 100 points = 300 points  
Final Exam (comprehensive) = 100 points  
Homework = 50 points  
Grand Total = 450 points

**It is the responsibility of the students to monitor their scores on ICON. Scores will not be changed after being posted for 1 week! As noted above, the grade will be based on two components: exams and homework. Each of these is discussed in detail below.**

**Exams:**

#1 Feb. 15  
#2 Mar. 29  
#3 Apr. 26  
5:30-7:00 PM  
W128 CB

**Final:**

Wed. May 12 at 9:45 AM Location to be announced

There will be three unit exams and a comprehensive final. The final exam will be cumulative and will emphasize material covered since the last exam and will also have questions from material from each of the previous unit exams. An exam period of 1.5 hours has been allocated for each unit exam, while 2 hours is reserved for the final. The exam period for this course is set for Mon. evenings from 5:30– 7:30 p.m. Exam dates have been set by the department and are listed to the left and on ISIS. Refer to the course calendar on ICON for updates regarding the exams.

You must bring a #2 pencil, a suitable calculator and your university student photo ID to the examinations. Scratch paper will be provided. As noted above, programmable or graphing calculators are not allowed, and the use of these items will be viewed as cheating. You must leave all books bags, and electronic devices (specifically: PDAs, cell phones, ipods or any electronic device that has either broadcast or photographic or video capability) at the front of the exam room. There will be one “review” session during the lecture period on the day of each exam.
More information about the university's policy on exams can be found at the Registrar’s website (http://www.registrar.uiowa.edu/exams/exampolicy.aspx).

**Make-Up Exams**
Fridays, 5:30-7:00 PM W290 CB

#1 Feb. 19

#2 Apr. 2

#3 Apr. 30

**Students are expected to attend all regularly scheduled exams and maintain assignment deadlines.**

You will have the opportunity for a makeup exam if your excuse for illness, mandatory religious obligations, University activities, etc. conforms to the University policy as explained in the University Operations Manual (http://www.uiowa.edu/~our/opmanual/iv/02.htm). You **must** present documentation (e.g. a Doctor’s note) and an Explanatory Statement of Absence, obtainable from 30 Calvin Hall, to the Chemistry Center (E225 CB) within 3 calendar days of the missed event. You will not be allowed to take the make-up exam if acceptable documentation has not been deposited with the Chemistry Center. The exam period has been set to be 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. on Fridays by the department of chemistry. These makeup exam dates will not be moved. It is the policy of the department that makeup exams are not returned after grading but may be examined in my office. Be aware that the make-up final may be given **prior** to the regularly scheduled final exam. Please note that wishing to leave campus early is not a valid reason to take the makeup final.

**Note:** Makeup exams will not be returned to the student. You may see them in my office and discuss any missed questions at that time.

**Keep Your Receipts**

It is recommended that you keep all graded and returned material from the discussion sections and exams until the end of the semester. At the end of the semester your cumulative total will be posted to the ICON website, prior to the final grade calculation and its submission to the registrar’s office. In the event of any problems including computational errors or missing grades you should consult the instructor of this course.

**Additional Assistance:**
- Office Hours
- Tutoring
- eMail

Students are strongly encouraged to seek assistance with any questions or problems that they are having with material covered in this course. The instructors will keep office hours as detailed on the first page of this syllabus. You do not need an appointment to stop by during my office hours. If you are unable to make office hours, you may request an appointment. Questions may also be submitted by e-mail. However, given the large number of students in this course, it may not be possible for the instructor to provide an immediate response to your message. If the instructor receives multiple questions on the same topic, then it is likely that a response will be given in lecture rather than individually by e-mail. If an e-mail refers to something that requires an immediate response, you should note this in the subject line.

**In all cases, it is important that any e-mail sent should include the course number (005) in the subject line.**

In addition to office hours, the department of chemistry provides additional assistance from TA’s Monday – Friday from 8:00 am – 4:30 pm in Room E244 CB. If you would like more specific help, a list of private tutors, which are generally not free, may be available from the Chemistry Center.
The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Policies and Procedures

Administrative Home of the Course
The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences is the administrative home of this course and governs matters such as the add/drop deadlines, the second-grade-only option, and other related issues. Different colleges may have different policies. Questions may be addressed to 120 Schaeffer Hall, or see the CLAS Student Academic Handbook.

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. Scroll down to k.11.)

Academic Fraud
Plagiarism and any other activities when students present work that is not their own are academic fraud. Academic fraud is a serious matter and is reported to the departmental DEO and to the Associate Dean for Undergraduate Programs and Curriculum. Instructors and DEOs decide on appropriate consequences at the departmental level while the Associate Dean enforces additional consequences at the collegiate level. See the CLAS Academic Fraud section of the Student Academic Handbook.

Suggestions or Complaints
Students with a suggestion or complaint should first visit the instructor, then the course supervisor, and then the departmental DEO. Complaints must be made within six months of the incident. See the CLAS Student Academic Handbook. Appeals can be filed through the chemistry center in E225 CB within 4 months of the incident. See the CLAS Student Academic Handbook. Appeals can be filed through the chemistry center in E225 CB.

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 Comprehensive Guide on Sexual Harassment for assistance, definitions, and the full University policy.

Accommodations for Disabilities
A student seeking academic accommodations should first register with Student Disability Services and then meet with a SDS counselor who determines eligibility for services. A student approved for accommodations should meet privately with the course instructor to arrange particular accommodations. See www.uiowa.edu/~sds/

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 Public Safety web site.

Student Classroom Behavior
The ability to learn is lessened when students engage in inappropriate classroom behavior, distracting others; such behaviors are a violation of the Code of Student Life. When disruptive activity occurs, a University instructor has the authority to determine classroom seating patterns and to request that a student exit immediately for the remainder of the period. One-day suspensions are reported to appropriate departmental, collegiate, and Student Services personnel (Office of the Vice President for Student Services and Dean of Students).*These CLAS policy and procedural statements have been summarized from the web pages of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and The University of Iowa Operations Manual.

University Examination Policies

Exam Policies All of the University policies including conflicts can be viewed at: http://www.registrar.uiowa.edu/exams/exampolicy.aspx

Missed Exam Policy University policy requires that students be permitted to make up examinations missed because of illness, mandatory religious obligations, certain University activities, or unavoidable circumstances. Excused absence forms and instructions are available at the ICON web site for this course.

Final Exam Policies Final exams may be offered only during finals week. No exams of any kind are allowed during the last week of classes. Students should not ask their instructor to reschedule a final exam since the College does not permit rescheduling of a final exam once the semester has begun. Questions should be addressed to the Associate Dean for Undergraduate Programs and Curriculum.

Final Examinations An undergraduate student who has two final examinations scheduled for the same period or more than three examinations scheduled for the same day may file a request for a change of schedule before the published deadline at the Registrar's Service Center, 17 Calvin Hall, 8-4:30 M-F, (384-4300).