

Dear Students,

Thank you for registering for the 2009-2010 AP Chemistry class. I look forward to working with each of you. In order for us to cover the entire curriculum and have time to prepare for the AP Exam in May, we will need to move through the topics at a quick pace. You may want to spend some time this summer reviewing concepts you learned in honors chemistry and getting a head start on the AP curriculum.

As an incentive for you getting a head start, I am offering “going beyond” credit. In order to earn this credit, you will need to purchase a copy of The Princeton Review’s Cracking the AP Chemistry Exam. You can find this book at Borders, Barnes & Noble, and other major bookstores.

During the first semester we will cover the following topics:

- i. Chemical Foundations (see the packet attached)
- ii. Atomic Structure and Periodicity
- iii. Bonding
- iv. Chemical Equations and Stoichiometry
- v. Gases, Liquids, Solids, and Phase Changes
- vi. Solutions

During the second semester, these are the topics we will cover:

- i. Kinetics
- ii. Equilibrium
- iii. Acids, Bases, and Additional Applications of Aqueous Equilibria
- iv. Thermodynamics
- v. Electrochemistry
- vi. Nuclear Reactions
- vii. Organic chemistry

As a review this summer, you should read any chapters in The Princeton Review book that correspond with the topics we will discuss. As you read, you should outline each chapter (with a focus on becoming familiar with the vocabulary and on understanding major concepts) AND answer, in your own words, the multiple choice and essay questions at the end of each chapter. I suggest that your outlines and answers be recorded in a hard bound composition notebook. Your outlines should be well organized and should completely represent the information presented. When answering the questions at the end of each chapter, you should aim for accuracy but do not just copy the correct answers given. In addition, for any math problems, you should **SHOW ALL WORK**.

If you choose to take this “going beyond” challenge, your composition notebook will be due on the third day of school. I will evaluate the notebook (for first semester topics only) in terms of its organization, completeness and neatness. The value of the credit will be announced later. In the past, I have dropped the lowest test grade or replaced the lowest test grade for completing this work. (Work for second semester topics will be due sometime early second semester.)

Feel free to contact me anytime at chemsherman@yahoo.com if you have questions. Have a great summer!!

-Mrs. Sherman