

# Dougherty High School Honors Chemistry Syllabus

- **Instructor:** Mrs. Farmer      **Mrs. Farmer's website:** [www.mychemistryclass.net](http://www.mychemistryclass.net)      **Email:** [sfarmer@srvusd.net](mailto:sfarmer@srvusd.net)
- **Sign up for REMIND APP:** download REMIND APP to join @hchemfarm class (or txt @hchemfarm to 81010)

Welcome to Honors Chemistry! This class is hard work and can be fun at the same time. This course follows the school district and state standards in Chemistry along with some preparation for the SAT II Subject Test in Chemistry and for AP Chemistry. I look forward to working with you this year and helping you to learn Chemistry! Please take the time to read this syllabus in its entirety. It is expected that you understand and adhere to the information and expectations within. If you have any questions please come ask.

## COURSE DESCRIPTION FROM DISTRICT COURSE CATALOG

Honors Chemistry is designed for students intending to major in science or engineering. It provides a solid foundation for students planning to take chemistry in college. This course includes a more in-depth study of the topics covered in chemistry as well as additional topics.

## CLASS RULE

Don't make anyone unhappy! That includes the teacher, your classmates, visitors, and yourself.

## CLASS EXPECTATIONS

<b>GENERAL:</b>	<b>EVERY DAY:</b>	<b>CLEAN UP:</b>	<b>EFFORT:</b>
1) Safety	1) Warmup	1) Desks	1) Work
2) Respect	2) Lesson	2) Benches	2) Questions
3) Hard work	3) Clean up	3) Floors	3) Participate

## HELPFUL WEBSITE

Please visit [www.mychemistryclass.net](http://www.mychemistryclass.net) for links to the notebook pages, class calendar, extra resources, etc.

## NOTEBOOKS and SUPPLIES

We use a composition notebook for warmups and taking notes. We use a 3-ring binder with 5 tab dividers for our reference sheets, study materials, and worksheets. Your notebook/binder will be graded on a regular basis and will be a large portion of your class grade. There will be announced and unannounced checks. It is expected that you put **SIGNIFICANT EFFORT** into your notebook. More information will be given about these items when we begin to use them.

This class will use the following supplies. If you cannot obtain the supplies for any reason, the supplies can and will be provided.

<b>STRONGLY RECOMMENDED</b> – Will be used in class	<b>Highly suggested</b>	<b>Optional, but fun!</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Wooden pencils for quiz/test days</li><li>• Composition Notebook</li><li>• 3-ring binder with 5 divider tabs</li><li>• Colored pencils and/or skinny markers</li><li>• Glue stick NOT tape!!!</li><li>• Red and Green ballpoint pens</li><li>• NON-graphing scientific calculator*</li><li>• Small scissors</li><li>• Highlighter</li><li>• Black/ Blue pen AND two pencils</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Small ruler</li><li>• Small pencil sharpener that can collect the shavings</li><li>• Small Post-it Notes</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Stickers</li><li>• Glitter pens</li><li>• Small envelopes</li></ul>

\* I HIGHLY recommend the Texas Instruments "Ti-30X IIS". This is the calculator that I will be using in class, and I find it to be the easiest (and most logical) to use. You may use a different one but I am not familiar with how to use every calculator out there, and I may not know how to help you with it! Please note you are required to use the teacher provided calculator during all quizzes and assessments if/when we are in school physically.

**SCHOOL POLICIES & PROCEDURES** – All policies, procedures, rules, and disciplinary actions will be followed from the DVHS Student Handbook. Please see the student handbook for further information.

## EXTRA HELP and REMINDER

Some of the best ways to be successful are to ask questions, take notes, participate in discussions, spend time using your resources, work as many problems as possible - over and beyond those assigned for homework, and attend and actively utilize Student Support Period. Problem solving is a skill that can only be improved by practice and exposure to lots of examples. If you do not do the work, you will not be successful. I am excited about this year. I love chemistry and my hope is for you to love it as well. Do not hesitate to ask for help. I am here to help you!

### Perseverance

*Keep calm → Track down mistakes → Learn → Improve*

## DVHS and CLASS GRADING POLICY

The following grading scale will be used for this course.

	B+ 87 – 89%	C+ 77 – 79%	D+ 67 – 69%	
A 93 – 100%	B 83 – 86%	C 73 – 76%	D 63 – 66%	F 0 – 59%
A- 90 – 92%	B- 80 – 82%	C- 70 – 72%	D- 60 – 62%	

Grades on all assignments, assessments, and overall class grades are final, unless otherwise stated by your teacher. Grades are not determined on a curve. Grades are not rounded. DVHS has a school-wide policy of no extra credit. Grades are weighted based on the following categories.

<b>% of Grade</b>	<b>Category</b>
10%	Short Term Assignments (Class/Homework)
20%	Lab Work, Extended Assignments (Projects)
25%	Quizzes
30%	Tests
15%	Final Exam

**Be on task, productive, engaged ...  
those are all part of doing your work!**

## LINE OF COMMUNICATION

Any questions or concerns regarding student progress in a class should be addressed through the following process per the student handbook:

1. Student communicating with teacher
2. Parent communicating with teacher
3. Parent/Student communicating with counselor
4. Parent/Student communicating with Assistant Principal
5. Parent/Student communicating with Principal

## STAFF COMMUNICATION POLICY

Email is typically the fastest and best way to reach me. As a guideline, any communication to staff, via email or telephone, should receive a response within 48 hours (excluding weekends and holidays). If there is no response within 48 hours, please email or call again stating this is the second attempt. Thank you for understand that the 48-hour guideline may be affected by illness, conferences, or technology problems.

## ACADEMIC HONESTY AND ETHICS POLICY

Honest behavior is an expectation at DVHS. The purpose of the policy is to create and maintain an ethical academic atmosphere in which strong behavioral consequences will be enforced. **Cheating, plagiarism, violation of test procedures will not be tolerated. Violations of academic ethics will be dealt with according to Board Policy, the California Education Code, and the [DVHS student handbook](#).**

## ADDING TO THE CLASS AFTER THE START OF THE YEAR

Students who add to the class after the start of the year will have their grade from their previous chemistry class transferred as an equal percentage. For example – if you exit your old class with an 85.6% you will start your new class with an 85.6%. Your grade will be transferred regardless of whether you transferred from another school, from one teacher to another teacher, or you transferred from an honors to regular level chemistry class or vice versa.

## HOMEWORK

Dougherty Valley High School will be following the District Homework Policy (AR 6154 and BP 6154), please see the Homework Policy on the District Website as well as the Dougherty Valley High School Web Site. ***Please be advised that this policy is/can be different for Honors/AP Courses.*** All homework assigned will be due at the start of the next class period unless otherwise noted. If an assignment is collected digitally (example: Google Classroom or Infinite Campus) the due dates may also have a time component (example: 8am). Not every homework assignment will be collected or graded. Some assignments are graded for accuracy, some for completion, and some will only have select problems graded.

## EXAMS - QUIZZES and TESTS

Exams may be: closed or open note/book, announced or unannounced. If an exam is announced, it will be announced in class and/or on the class website/calendar. Exams may contain questions on prior units. Quizzes may be given mid unit, and/or after a unit. Tests may cover several units at a time. For test security purposes, cell phones, any device capable of recording or taking photos, or any other electronic devices (such as “smart watches”), are not permitted on your person during an exam. All electronic devices will be placed in a “cell phone holder” at the front of the classroom until the end of the exam. Your belongings will be stored away from your person during the exam. If you are found with an electronic device, or any unauthorized materials, during the exam it will be assumed it was used inappropriately, and you will receive a permanent zero on the assessment and your Assistant Principal will be notified. The infraction will be logged in your Infinite Campus behavioral record.

## TARDIES, ATTENDANCE and MAKEUP WORK

Tardies are disruptive and interrupt the progress of other students. Tardiness will be addressed in accordance with school policy as specified in the DVHS handbook. Please see the Dougherty Valley High School Webpage for the make-up work policy. If you have a legally excused absence, it is **YOUR RESPONSIBILITY** to find out what the missed class work and homework assignment(s) was and to complete it.

UNEXCUSED and CUT absences – You will not be permitted to earn credit for work due, or exams given on days you have unexcused or cut absences. Please be aware of the school’s requirements and timeline for clearing absences to be unexcused, and for what types of reasons are classified as unexcused.

EXCUSED absences – You get the number of days absent to complete make-up work. Assignments subject to change at teacher’s discretion. If you were only gone for the day of the exam, you will take it upon your return to school unless other arrangements have been made with the teacher in advance. This includes missing the exam due to field trips, sports, or other school events. If you are missing work due to field trips, sports, or other school events you must get the absent work ahead of time. Since you are not home ill in bed unable to work, you are expected to do the work that evening. It is important not to fall behind. Missed exams will be made up during class, unless I allow you to make it up during Student Support period with prior approval. If you are absent for an exam, for any reason, you will be given a make-up version. It will cover the same material but can be different questions or a different format. Students are not entitled to an exam format of their preference. If a pattern arises where a student repeatedly misses class (including excused absences) on an exam day, a referral to administration will be given on the third occurrence to discuss the concerning pattern.

## DVHS SCHOOL LEARNER OUTCOMES

At Dougherty Valley High School, students will:

- Communicate effectively
- Become critical thinkers and problem solvers who support ideas with reliable evidence
- Practice integrity, honesty, and ethical behavior as a global citizen
- Be a responsible partner in the learning process
- Take ownership of individual growth

*Syllabus is subject to change at teachers’ discretion. If this occurs you will be notified.*

## Donations

Individual courses are no longer asking for/or collecting donations.

**PLEASE support our class and your student(s) by donating to the DVHS Education Fund.**

More information can be found on the DVHS website under the “students/families” tab at the top of the home page (direct link [HERE](#)). **Thank you** for your continued support of DVHS academics!

## Syllabus Acknowledgment Google Form

Students - you need to fill this google form out with your Parent/Guardian acknowledging that you read the syllabus and understand the general class guidelines discussed in the form.

**ADD YOUR OWN GOOGLE FORM LINK HERE**

*Syllabus continues on the next page*

## EXPECTATIONS OF THE STUDENTS

### ***Behavioral Expectations***

All students are expected to be respectful to the other students and teachers while in this class. There will be zero tolerance for students disrespecting each other or teachers. All students are expected to be honest at all times. Students will be expected to work together in cooperative groups. Each student should participate in group discussions, as well as actively listen while the teacher is giving a lesson or instructions. Every student should come to class on time and be ready to learn for the full class period!

### ***Google Classroom & Infinite Campus***

All students are expected to use Google Classroom and Infinite Campus to access information about upcoming events and assignments, class materials, view scores, and check current grades. If you are having trouble signing in, please let me know as soon as possible.

### ***Responsible Use Agreements***

Students are responsible for their own ethical and educational use of the SRVUSD technology resources. Please see the [SRVUSD Responsible Use Agreements webpage](#) for more information.

### ***Guiding Principles for AI Use***

Students are responsible for their own ethical and educational use of Artificial Intelligence (AI). Please see the [SRVUSD Guiding Principles for AI Use](#) for more information.

**PLEASE NOTE - Using AI to complete any portion of an assignment turned in for credit will not be allowed unless the instructions for an individual assignment given by the instructor clearly says otherwise. There are ways to use AI to help you study, but AI may not be used to complete any part of any work turned in for credit. Unauthorized use of AI will result in a zero for the entire assignment.**

### ***Student Support***

All students are expected to sign up for both Student Support sessions during Homeroom each week and attend them regularly. While a teacher may assign you to a specific session for a particular purpose, you may also have some flexibility in choosing where to go. You are encouraged to select the session that will best support your academic success. If you do not sign up for a session, one will be assigned to you. Attendance at Student Support is mandatory, just like any other class on your schedule. Failure to attend will result in a "CUT" and may also result in disciplinary consequences.

### ***Cell Phone Policy***

Per SRVUSD Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 5151.8, all DVHS classrooms will enforce the following expectations:

- Students will store their cell phones and other mobile communication devices in caddies during all class periods and in Student Support.
- Cell phones and other mobile communication devices will stay in the caddies at all times during the class period, including restroom and other breaks.
- Cell phones and other mobile communication devices that are out and being used without explicit teacher permission may be collected and sent to the office for the remainder of the school day.