

CHEM 960
ENGINEERING CHEMISTRY 1
FALL 2025
TERM 2261

DR. SUSAN K. MALECKAR
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COURSE TIMES:

CHEM 960 SEC 1200 CRN 32896 MW 8:00-8:50AM	}	GARDNER STEEL 138
OR CHEM 960 SEC 1025 CRN 10988 MW 9:00-9:50AM		
OR CHEM 960 SEC 1100 CRN 10989 MW 10:00-10:50AM		

AND TUE: 8:00-8:50AM CHEVRON 152 COMBINED LECTURE

Lectures will be delivered in person at these times. In the rare event that in person delivery is not possible, instructions will be sent out for lecture delivery via Zoom/Panopto video. Click on the Zoom tab in Canvas to access it. Afterwards, the recording of the session will self-post under the Panopto tab in Canvas. In person lectures are not recorded.

OFFICE HOURS

- Tuesdays 9:00-11:00AM in my office in Chevron 107
- Wednesdays 4-5PM on Zoom. The links are listed under Zoom in our Canvas course down the left side.

If you need to talk at a time other than the posted office hours, I would be happy to meet with you at other times. Please email me for a day/time or talk to me before/after class.

RECITATIONS

In addition to the above lectures, you **must** attend one of these sections weekly. These sessions, led by a graduate student teaching assistant (TA), give you an opportunity to ask questions in a small group setting. Every week you will work on various problems in recitation to support the learning of the lecture material from the previous week. Most weeks you will also take a quiz on the previous week's lecture material. I write all of the quizzes.

<u>DAY/TIME</u>	<u>ROOM</u>	<u>CRN</u>	<u>SEC</u>
Thur 8:00-8:50AM	Chevron 132	10474	1115
Thur 8:00-8:50AM	Eberly 228	10738	1110
Thur 8:00-8:50AM	Chevron 135	10472	1105
Thur 9:00-9:50AM	Chevron 132	10741	1040
Thur 9:00-9:50AM	Chevron 135	10739	1030
Thur 9:00-9:50AM	SRCC 113	10473	1035
Fri 8:00-8:50AM	GSCC 138	32897	1205
Fri 9:00-9:50AM	GSCC 138	32898	1210
Fri 9:00-9:50AM	Eberly 206	10740	1045
Fri 10:00-10:50AM	GSCC 138	32899	1215
Fri 10:00-10:50AM	Chevron 132	10724	1120

BOOKS AND MATERIALS

1. Book: We will be using an open electronic resource (OER) textbook this year. It is the 2nd edition Atoms First Chemistry book from Open Stax and can be accessed here: <https://openstax.org/details/books/chemistry-atoms-first-2e>. It is also integrated into Achieve and can be accessed in Achieve. Achieve is our online homework system.

You can also purchase a bound copy of the book if you'd like from the bookstore or Amazon or other sources.

2. Online Homework: We will be using Achieve for our primary online homework system. [Click here](#) for the details on how to register for an account. Once registered, you can access Achieve in our Canvas course by clicking on Assignments or Modules.

When signing up, you will have the option to purchase one term or two terms for a discounted rate. Unless you think you may change schools or switch your major to one

that does not require Chemistry, I would recommend purchasing two terms. You can also use their two week free trial period to get started. Your work will be retained when you convert it to a permanent account.

3. AKTIV: Aktiv is an app that we will also be using. The instructions for signing up for Aktiv are in a pdf file that is posted under Files in Canvas. The code to access our course is **VT3F2K**. You should install this app on a device (probably a phone or an ipad) that you will have with you in lecture and recitation. We will be using Aktiv in lecture and/or recitation and/or for after-class assignments. There is two week free trial period as well.

GRADES

Exams:

3 exams, **100** points each
a cumulative final exam, **200** points
Exams will be in person in Chevron 152 and will start at 7:45AM on exam days.
The Final Exam location is determined by the University and will be announced at some point later in the term.

Quizzes:

10 quizzes, 11 points each, given in recitation most weeks
the lowest score will be dropped and 1 point will be added,
resulting in a total of **100** points.

Homework:

Homework will be completed online at www.macmillanlearning.com. You can go there directly or access it via the Macmillan tab inside our Canvas course. Due dates will be listed at the site. Your total homework for the term will be worth **70** points.

Aktiv:

Small after class assignments will be announced in class
We may also use Aktiv in lecture and/or recitation
The total for the term will be **30** points.

Overall Grade:

Exams	300 pts
Final Exam	200 pts
Quizzes	100 pts
Homework - Achieve	70 pts
Aktiv Questions	30 pts

Total	700 points
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GRADING

Your total points will be added up at the end of the term. I will calculate the class average and fix that at about 75%, adding or subtracting points in order to do so. The resulting scores will then be applied to a strict 97/93/90/87/83/80.....etc scale.

Do not rely on a curve in this class. Often the curve is small. Any curve that does exist is at my discretion and will not be determined until the end of term.

CANVAS

Our course is on Canvas. It is a repository for partial notes, exam solutions, etc. Partial notes are optional, and it is your responsibility to print or download them from Canvas if you wish to use them. I will not be posting grades in Canvas other than exam scores. You can get current homework scores in Achieve and you should have the graded returned quizzes in your possession.

COMMUNICATION

It is essential that you let me know if you have problems in this course as it progresses. I cannot help you the week before the final or after the course is over. PLEASE contact me by email or talk to me before/after class if/when there are issues that need to be discussed.

EXAM REGRADE POLICY

If you feel that your exam was not graded fairly, you may request a re-grade. To do so, contact me by email within three days of getting your exam back. I reserve the right to re-grade the entire exam when it is submitted for a re-grade. Do not expect to request an exam regrade once the term has ended. Do not bring an exam to me long after the exam was taken.

MAKEUP POLICY

If you have extreme circumstances preventing you from taking an exam, contact me ASAP. If you suddenly have reason to miss an exam (extreme sickness, death, etc), you are responsible for contacting me as soon as humanly possible. Makeup exams are not always possible and are not normally provided. You should make every attempt to take the exams when normally given.

FINAL EXAM CONFLICTS

If you have three or more final exams in one day, you may request an alternate final exam time. You should read the guideline from the registrar:

https://www.registrar.pitt.edu/sites/default/files/pdf/final_guideline.pdf

See the Final Exam Conflict Accommodation Procedure:

https://www.registrar.pitt.edu/sites/default/files/pdf/final_procedure.pdf

Fill out the Final Exam Conflict Accommodation Form:

https://www.registrar.pitt.edu/sites/default/files/pdf/Final_Exam_Conflict_Accommodation_Form.pdf

and submit it to the Registrar's Office (G-2 Thackeray Hall) by the deadline (October 24, 2025).

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

All of us are expected to follow the University of Pittsburgh's academic integrity guidelines. They can be obtained from the CAS Dean's Office or at www.fcas.pitt.edu, the undergraduate studies site. **Violations of these guidelines can result in zero points for an exam or failure for the course.**

DISABILITIES

If you have a disability for which you are or may be requesting an accommodation, you are encouraged to contact both your instructor and the Office of Disability Resourced and Services, 216 William Pitt Union, 412-648-7890 as early as possible in the term. DRS will verify your disability and determine reasonable accommodations for this course.

ADDITIONAL HELP

Your first source of help should be my office hours and your recitation instructor's office hours. In addition to this, Study Lab will be offering tutoring. There is also free tutoring through the Chemistry Department. I will post details about all of this on Canvas once they are available. I do not know at this point if these resources will be in person, online, or a mixture of both.

Q & A

Q: If I am sick and don't feel well enough to attend lecture, what should I do?

A: Get the notes from someone and take care of yourself. If you are out for an extended time, please email me and I can be aware and potentially provide assistance.

Q: What happens if I'm sick and we have an exam?

A: Email me as soon as possible and we will discuss it.

Q: What happens in recitation every week?

A: - it's another chance for you to ask questions about material or homework
- you take a quiz most weeks
- you do more advanced problems (activity set) that help you to prepare for harder exam questions

Q: What if I cannot attend my recitation during a given week?

A: If you miss your recitation, go to another one during that same week, if possible. You don't have to ask, just go and tell the TA that you're from another section. If you are sick and are unable to attend a different section that week, email me and we can discuss it. I also have one extra quiz built into the schedule to allow for one missed quiz per term.

Chem 960 Schedule Fall 2025

Week	Dates	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur/Fri Recitation
1	Aug 25 – 29	Welcome & Ch 2	Ch 2	Ch 2	Welcome & No Quiz
2	Sep 1 – Sep 5	No Classes	Ch 3	Ch 3	Quiz 1
3	Sep 8 - Sep 12	Ch 3	Ch 3	Ch 3	Quiz 2
4	Sep 15 - Sep 19	Ch 3	Ch 4	Ch 4	Quiz 3
5	Sep 22 - Sep 26	Ch 4	Ch 4	Ch 4	Quiz 4
6	Sep 29 - Oct 3	Ch 4	Exam 1 Ch 2, 3, 4A 7:45AM start	Ch 4	Quiz 5
7	Oct 6 - Oct 10	Ch 4	Ch 4	Ch 5	Fall Break on 10/10 No Quizzes but Aktiv Problem Sets
8	Oct 13 - Oct 17	Ch 5	Ch 5	Ch 7A	Quiz 6
9	Oct 20 - Oct 24	Ch 7A	Ch 7B/6B/11A	Ch 7B/6B/11A	No Quiz
10	Oct 27 - Oct 31	Ch 7B/6B/11A	Exam 2 Ch 4B, 5, and 7A 7:45AM start	Ch 9	Quiz 7
11	Nov 3 - Nov 7	Ch 9	Ch 9	Ch 9	Quiz 8
12	Nov 10 - Nov 14	Ch 8	Ch 8	Ch 8	Quiz 9
13	Nov 17 - Nov 21	Ch 8	Exam 3 Ch 11A, 6B, 7B, & 9 & CA 7:45AM start	Ch 10	No Quiz
14	Nov 24 - Nov 28	No Class Thanksgiving	No Class Thanksgiving	No Class Thanksgiving	No Class Thanksgiving
15	Dec 1 - Dec 5	Ch 10	Ch 10	Ch 10	Quiz 10
16	FINAL EXAM	Monday	December 8	8:00-9:50AM	The location will be announced by the Registrar later in the term

This schedule is subject to change. Changes will be announced in class. Come to class!