

United States Naval Academy
Chemistry Department
SC111 Course Policy Statement
Fall 2003

Associate Professor Joseph F. Lomax
Pr-214, Ch-H8, X3-6611; 301-441-3670
lomax@usna.edu

Sections: 3512
Lecture- LuG10 Lab-Ch-G1
<http://www.chemistry.usna.edu/lomax/sc111/>

- Department Policy:** All work submitted for grading must be the product of the student(s) whose name(s) is(are) recorded on the material and who therefore is(are) claiming academic credit. It is both legally and morally unacceptable to submit the work of another person as your own. The use of unauthorized assistance, as defined by your course instructor, on graded assignments is an honor offense. If you receive academic credit for work, it must truly be yours.
- Textbook, Required Materials:** You should have received at Book Issue: a textbook, "Chemistry: The Central Science", the companion student study guide and information for WebAssign, a web-based homework program. (Login at <http://webassign.net/student.html>).
- Class Attendance:** Attendance in class and laboratory is mandatory. Any midshipman arriving after the bell is tardy and must check in with me and the section leader. If you must miss class, notify me as soon as possible (preferably at least a week in advance). The absentee is responsible for material covered in his/her absence. If at all possible, labs will be made up the week of the absence. You will not miss a chemistry laboratory because you have been assigned watch during that time. Watch standing does not have priority over chemistry lab (per direction by the Superintendent).
- Tests, Quizzes and Benchmark Exams.** This is a **benchmarked** class. *Five thirty-minute exams* will be given before we cover material. The multiple choice portion will be graded before you leave and all correct problems will be marked. I will assign partial credit to incorrect answers outside of class. The Benchmark Exam will give you an indication of what is expected of you, show you a snapshot of where you are before we cover the material and give me an indication where students are weakest. At the end of the coverage of material found on the Benchmark Exam, a fifty-minute exam will be given to all. No one will get a grade lower than the original Benchmark Exam score. It is my hope that you will greatly improve your understanding of chemistry and thereby improve your score.
- WebAssign Homework and Drills:** People who have difficulty on the Benchmark Exam (<70%) will need to finish and hand in homework that will drill them on basic material. In addition, they will need to work on the more complex problems in WebAssign. Those who do well (70-84%) should be challenged by their homework so they can earn an even higher grade, but they typically do not need to drill basic problem types. They will only need to do the WebAssign homework. People who do exceptionally well (>85%) have retained their previous knowledge of this particular part of the course work and they will not be expected to hand in homework. They may find that doing the WebAssign problems will prepare them for hour exams. If you earn 75% or above on the Benchmark Exam, you will earn full credit on drills.

6. **Extra-Instruction, Midshipman Group Study Program and the Chemistry Resource Room:** You are highly encouraged to come for extra-instruction (EI). Though appointments are recommended, walk-in extra instruction will be on a time available basis. I love giving EI, but with the renovation of Michelson Hall, I will be a bit spread out and at times difficult to find. My office is in Preble Hall (The Museum) on the second deck, Room 214. You can most easily access the second deck by taking the stairway on the corner closest to the intersection of Maryland Ave. and Decatur Road. I will often be in my lab in Chauvenet Hall, H-8. No “standing” appointments will be accepted. In addition to one-on-one EI, I will be in the Chemistry Resource Room (Ch214) for EI on Monday nights 1930-2200. You should come to EI with questions.

Midshipmen Group Study Program (MGSP) leaders are in the Chemistry Resource Room most periods and evenings in Mil 14. It is a voluntary study/problem program open to all SC111 students. You might find their expertise in arranging group study and their help with problems very helpful.

7. **Laboratory:** Safety is of the utmost importance in the chemistry lab. Always work safely and carefully. Bring and wear your safety goggles. **If you do not bring your goggles, you will be sent back to your room to get them.** Failure to do this or to adhere to safety guidelines given in the General Chemistry Laboratory Manual will be grounds for dismissal from the laboratory. You must leave your laboratory station and equipment clean and ready for the next student. If any equipment is broken or in unsatisfactory condition, bring it to our attention immediately and it will be replaced.

The experiment report is on the Web (<http://www.chemistry.usna.edu/manual/sc111f02.htm>). You are responsible for coming to lab prepared to do the experiment. You will need to print it out, read it and bring it to lab. **If you do not bring your lab report, you will be sent back to your room to get it.** Reading the experiment before coming to lab is considered a safety act and cannot be ignored. To assure this, you will need to finish the prelab on WebAssign before you arrive in lab that day.

You will frequently be required to work with a lab partner (or partners). You may collaborate with your lab partner(s) in the making of observations and the collecting of data. This is authorized collaboration. (Realize that even authorized collaboration needs to be acknowledged.) However, the laboratory write up (i.e. the analysis of data and the answering of questions) will be performed individually. Specifically, any spreadsheet must start from a blank page. Only those templates given in the Lab Manual or by the instructor can be directly copied. You may use your own previously written labs as models, if the work is entirely your own.

Completed lab reports will be due one week the lab. **Late reports will not be accepted!** If you are unable to turn in your lab report on the date due because of an excused absence (movement orders, watch, SIR etc.), you must turn in your lab report the first day you are back in class after the absence unless you have made other arrangements.

Course grades will be based on the following percentages:	<u>Component</u>		<u>Value (percent)</u>
	Final Exam		25
	Homework	Drills 3	8
		WebAssign 5	
	Lab		10
	Quizzes		13
	Common Exams	2 × 10	20
	Lomax Exams	3 × 8	<u>24</u>
	Total		100