Foundations of Chemistry I - Honors
Course Syllabus

Instructor: Prof. Timothy A. Jackson, 1027 Malott Hall, taj@ku.edu, 864-3968

Teaching Assistants: Jason Applegate, j627a928@ku.edu
Nate Erickson, nerickson@ku.edu

Lecture: MWF 9:00 – 9:50 AM, 1003 Malott Hall

Discussions: Monday 5 – 6 PM, 2007 Malott; and TO BE DETERMINED

Attendance at the discussion sections for this course is optional. This time provides an informal period for raising questions concerning lecture material, assigned readings, and problem sets. Formal problem solving sessions will often be held during this time, and these will be announced in lecture. Discussion sections will be interactive, so please come prepared to ask questions and participate.

Office Hours: Monday 10:30 – 11:30 AM (1027 Malott)
Tuesday 12:30 – 2:00 PM (1027 Malott)
If you cannot attend these office hours, please send an e-mail to set-up an appointment.

Jason: By appointment
Nate: Wednesday 10:00 – 11:00 AM (1012 Malott)
Friday 10:00 – 11:00 AM (1012 Malott)
If you cannot attend these office hours, please send an e-mail to set-up an appointment.

Required Textbook: Chemistry, Atoms First by OpenStax. This open access textbook can be found at https://openstax.org/details/chemistry-atoms-first. You can read online or download the text for free from this site. You can also purchase a hardcopy of this text at a reasonable cost.

Course Website: As an enrolled student, you will have access to the Blackboard website at http://courseware.ku.edu. Make certain that you can access this site as soon as possible. Relevant course information, including problem sets, announcements, and lecture materials will be posted here.

Problem Sets: For each of the chapters covered this semester, you will be provided with a list of reading questions and a problem set. Reading questions are to highlight the crucial topics of the chapter and may serve as templates for quiz questions (see below). Selected problem sets will be turned in and a subset of problems will be graded. No late homework will be accepted.

Quizzes: Six short (~15 minute) quizzes will be given throughout the semester. Quizzes will be unannounced and given on the beginning of class on Fridays. Please note that quizzes will NOT be given on weeks where there is a CHEM 190
exam. To be well prepared for quizzes, it is important to keep up with the lecture material, reading questions, and problem sets.

**Exams:**
- Exam #1: Tuesday, Sept. 19th, 8:00 – 10:00 PM, 1001 Malott Hall
- Exam #2: Tuesday, Oct. 24th, 8:00 – 10:00 PM, 1001 Malott Hall
- Exam #3: Tuesday, Nov. 14th, 8:00 – 10:00 PM, 1001 Malott Hall
- Final Exam: Tuesday, Dec. 12th, 7:30 – 10:00 AM, 1003 Malott Hall

There are three exams during the course of the semester and one final exam. No make-up exams will be given without a legitimate reason. Please contact the instructor well in advance if you have a conflict with an exam time. It is your responsibility to make arrangements with the instructor prior to the date of the exam. Please note that there will not be lectures on Wednesdays following evening exams.

**Public Display and On-line Materials:**
- Topic Selection: Friday, Sept. 29, 5:00 PM
- Final Project: Monday, Nov. 20, 5:00 PM

You will work in small groups to develop a publicly displayed poster linked to on-line content describing the chemical principles underlying something you encounter every day. For example, you might prepare a display on the chemistry of cooking for a cafeteria or near the Nunemaker kitchen, or you might create a display on the chemistry of antibiotics for Watkins Health center. Each group will propose several locations on campus or in Lawrence where a chemistry display might be appropriate. Topics and display locations are to be submitted through Blackboard by Friday, September 29. The poster display will contain general information on the relevant chemistry and contain a QR code directing individuals to more detailed information on-line. Each group will be responsible for preparing the public display as well as the on-line content. More details regarding this assignment, including an example presentation and web content, will be provided in early September.

**Grading:**

Points will be allocated as follows:

- Problem Sets = 10%
- Quizzes = 5%
- Exams #1, #2, and #3 (100 points each) = 30%
- Public Display and On-line Materials = 10%
- Final Exam = 15%
- Total (Lecture Portion) = 70%
- Laboratory = 30%

*Curved Grading System:* Following the first exam, the instructor will provide an outline of the curved grading system. While grades determined using a curve cannot be ultimately determined until all scores have been assigned, the instructor will provide updates to let you know where you stand with regard to a letter grade during the course of the semester.

If at any time you are confused about the grading system or have questions concerning your current grade status, please contact your instructor.

*Extra Credit:* No extra credit assignments will be given as part of this course. However, individual exams may include an extra credit problem.
Academic Misconduct:

The University Senate has issued the following statement defining academic misconduct: “Academic misconduct by a student shall include, but not be limited to, disruption of classes; threatening an instructor or fellow student in an academic setting; giving or receiving of unauthorized aid on examinations or in the preparation of notebooks, themes, reports or other assignments; knowingly misrepresenting the source of any academic work; unauthorized changing of grades; unauthorized use of University approvals or forging of signatures; falsification of research results; plagiarizing of another’s work; violation of regulations or ethical codes for the treatment of human and animal subjects; or otherwise acting dishonestly in research.” Further information regarding academic integrity can be found on the KU Student Affairs website (https://studentaffairs.ku.edu/academic-integrity).

While students are strongly encouraged to work in groups, any work that you turn in must be your own. Specifically, any work you turn in should reflect your knowledge of the subject matter and be your original work. Academic misconduct includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism, improper use of references or on-line resources, and turning in another’s work as your own. Please note that students’ papers may be photocopied at the discretion of the instructor without the knowledge or consent of the student.

Any incidence of academic misconduct will be treated in accordance with KU’s policy, as described in the Student Handbook. At a minimum, this includes receiving no credit for the work in question. However, academic misconduct may merit a grade of F in the course and suspension or expulsion from the University. Please contact me or consult the Student Handbook if you have questions regarding academic misconduct.

Accessibility:

At KU the Academic Achievement and Access Center (AAAC; see http://www.achievement.ku.edu/) serves as the home for student access services at KU. AAAC identifies and coordinates appropriate accommodations; provides tutoring services; holds academic success workshops; and offers individual consultations with students. Please see the student access services webpage http://access.ku.edu for working with AAAC to document the need for, and enquire about, accessibility resources.

Class Conduct:

Questions are strongly encouraged. Please do not be shy about asking questions in lecture.

Cell phones, music players, etc. must be turned off and put away during class, discussion sections, and exam periods. The instructor will ask students to leave the classroom for disruptive or inappropriate behavior.