

# **Cosby High School Chemistry I Syllabus**

## **2025-2026**

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### **Welcome to Chemistry!**

#### **I. Course Description**

Chemistry is a required course for graduation in the state of Tennessee. This introductory course will cover a broad range of topics under the umbrella of chemistry, starting with more introductory level material and working through more complex topics. Chemistry is a fascinating and broad branch of science that helps us understand the world around us. Upon completion of this course, students will better understand the periodic table and the elements therein, how they interact with one another, how those interactions occur, and why it is important.

#### **II. Course Preparation and Materials**

*Student requirement for class include:*

- Students are responsible to have acquired necessary materials within one week of starting class.
- Students are required to complete assignments when they are given.
- Students will participate in labs and experiments while following all necessary safety precautions.

*Materials:*

- Large binder (1.5")
- Notebook paper (college ruled)
- Pencil/pen (black or blue ink only)
- All other materials for any assignments or experiments will be provided.

### **III. Assessment:**

#### *Grades:*

- In-class assignments/ Homework
- Experiments
- Quizzes
- Exams/Projects

#### *Grading Scale:*

A=90-100

B=80-89

C=70-79

D=60-69

F=0-60

#### *Absent Work:*

It is the responsibility of the student to make up any missed assignments, tests, etc. Students will have a minimum of 5 days to get make-up work turned in. Students may discuss make up work with me before or after class, or via email. I will not be reaching out or reminding students about their work.

#### *Late Work:*

This is a fast-paced class, and it is important to keep up with work as it comes. All assignments should be handed in by the due date. Assignments not handed in within 5 days of the due date will receive an automatic zero.

#### IV. General Expectations of Students:

##### Class Rules:

- Be courteous and respectful of others.
- Be on time, prepared, and willing to try.
- No snacks, gum, vapes, or drinks etc.
- No heavily scented perfumes, colognes, sanitizers, lotions, etc.
- No hats, hoods, blankets are to be worn or used in the chemistry classroom.
- **Follow any and all safety procedures exactly as given.**
- **Chemical and glassware cabinets are off limits to students.**

##### *Attendance Policy:*

This class will likely be first time exposure to a majority of the material for most students. Consistent attendance is crucial to success. Class will begin as soon as the tardy bell rings and end with the dismissal bell. Please make sure that you are in your seat and ready to begin when the tardy bell rings. *If a student misses fewer than three days of class for the semester, they will be automatically exempt from the midterm or final.*

##### *Tardy Policy:*

You will be counted tardy if you are not in the classroom, seated, with all materials when the tardy bell rings. 3 tardies will equal an absence and will count against you for the exam incentive policy.

##### *Cell Phone/communication device Policy:*

School board policy will be followed regarding all communication devices. The first time you are caught with a communication device it will be confiscated and sent to the office and may only be retrieved once a guardian has been contacted and permits it. The second time, the guardian will be required to come pick up the phone from the office themselves. The third time, you will be considered insubordinate, and administration will discuss further punishment.

##### *Leaving Class:*

Students must have teacher permission to leave the classroom for any reason at all. Use the restroom between classes to avoid wasting classroom time. You will be given a bathroom pass that can be used 5 times per semester; once those 5 are used, you will not be permitted to leave. It is the responsibility of the student to keep up with this pass. If pass is lost, they will not be replaced. Any unused uses can be turned in for extra credit at the end of the term.

*Honor Code:*

Academic honesty is vital and nonnegotiable. Students will complete their own assignments, quizzes and tests. Cheating, including but not limited to, copying others' work, use of AI or apps, plagiarism, etc, will result in automatic failure of involved assignments with no option of appeal or redo. Any student who allows another student to copy their work will also receive a zero.

*Seating:*

Seating will be assigned. If the seating arrangement leads to disruptive or unruly behavior/environment, seating will be changed as needed.

**V. General Expectations of Teacher:**

*Communication:*

Email: megsmith@cocke.k12.tn.us

If students or teachers have concerns about progress or difficulties with class, please feel free to contact me at any time.

It is important that I am made aware if the needs of a student are not being met. I am more than happy to help in any way I can, but I cannot do so without being properly informed when situations arise. I am happy to accommodate hearing or visual impairments, seating arrangements, or any other situation that takes away from the student's ability to learn and succeed in the classroom.

I am more than willing to provide extra aid, practice, tutoring, etc. I must be contacted at least two days in advance in order to coordinate time, place, and depth of help desired.

If you or anyone you know is in need of something, just let me know and I will provide what I can, no questions asked. I am not allowed to provide any medicated items, including but not limited to Tylenol, Ibuprofen, cough drops, Midol, antihistamines, etc.