UTRGV logo

**GENERAL CHEMISTRY I: CHEM 1311.90L**

**Syllabus**

**Fall 2021**

# Course Information:

Meeting times: **Class time for those who are able:** MW 8 to 9.15 am

Meeting location Blackboard Collaborate CourseRoom

**Course Modality:** Online Asynchronous Courses (OASYNC)

These courses will be delivered fully online. There will be no designated class meeting time for real-time instructor/student interaction, which gives you the flexibility to engage with the course materials as best fits your daily schedule.  Your learning will be guided by the digital presentation of the course content (e.g., recorded lectures, presentations, outlines, notes) and scheduled assignments. Your instructors will provide you with feedback on assigned work, communicate with you electronically, and be available to meet as defined on this syllabus.

**Class philosophy:** Note that this class is taught in an online, asynchronous format. However, some students may want to have a more structured format of a ‘virtual classroom’ with a scheduled class meeting time. For those who are able, we will meet online MW *8 to 9.15 am* using Blackboard Collaborate.

Additionally, some students may want a more personal type of online instruction or may find a structured meeting time helpful to manage their time. To accommodate this, I will hold a ‘Virtual Classroom’ on Blackboard using Blackboard Collaborate in which we can meet for lectures IF YOU ARE ABLE. Lectures will be recorded during that session and added to the list of recorded lectures for anyone who wants to keep up that way.

On the left side of the Blackboard page, click on Blackboard Classroom to enter the online classroom.

# Instructor Information:

Instructor Name: Dr. Joanne Rampersad  
Phone: 956-665-2097  
E-Mail: joanne.rampersadammons@utrgv.edu  
Office location: ESCNE 3.118  
Office hours: M 10.45 am to 12.15 pm; W 11 to 12.30 pm or By Appointment (see Blackboard for the latest updated office hours). To access me online in a group setting, simply join Blackboard Collaborate and go to Dr. Jo’s Office. Otherwise for individual meetings do not hesitate to send me an email if we need to talk so we can agree on a convenient time for a phone call, Blackboard or Zoom session.

***In accordance with the new university policy, all email communication between the University and students will be conducted through the students' official University supplied UTRGV account.***

***Please do not use the reply function in Blackboard to send me an email- I do not monitor that account. I answer student emails during my office hours giving priority to students who visit in person.***

## Response Time:

Generally I will respond to emails (including acknowledging receiving an email from students) within **24 hours** of receiving them during the week or **48 hours** over the weekend/holidays. If I plan to be away from my computer for more than a couple of days, I will let you know in advance. Any technical questions can be referred to Blackboard Support.

**Please note, I do not monitor emails throughout the day** because I cannot accomplish a task that requires thought if I am being constantly interrupted. I check emails twice, so please do not send me a request and expect a response immediately. My cut off time at night is 8 pm. I expect a certain degree of professional behavior from all of you which includes respecting my time.

I will update the online grades each time a grading session has been complete—typically **2-3 days** following the completion of an activity. You will see a visual indication of new grades posted on your Blackboard home page under the link to this course. While I am grading the test, it will disappear from your Blackboard.

# Course Description, Prerequisites & MODE OF LEARNING

## Catalog Description:

Fundamentals of atomic structure, electronic structure and periodic table, nomenclature, the stoichiometry reactions, thermochemistry, gas laws, chemical bonding, and structure and geometry of molecules

**Credit:** Lecture credit- 3 hours (**Laboratory is a separate 1 hour course,** (**CHEM1111**)

**Prerequisite:** One year of high school chemistry.

COVID-19 RESOURCES**:** Required on all syllabi. Do not modify.

Please visit the [UTRGV COVID-19 protocols web page](https://www.utrgv.edu/commitment/info/protocols/index.htm) for the most up-to-date COVID-19 campus information and resources. The [COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) web page](https://www.utrgv.edu/commitment/faq/covid19/index.htm) offers additional guidance to specific questions. To submit a question for the FAQ, please email [WelcomeBack@utrgv.edu](mailto:WelcomeBack@utrgv.edu).

**UTRGV VACCINE PORTAL** Required on all syllabi. Do not modify.

UTRGV Students are eligible to receive the COVID-19 Vaccine.  Students may access and complete their vaccine profile via the [UTRGV Vaccine Portal](https://apps.powerapps.com/play/6f63d352-fd99-4000-8107-c78a2b2eb84c). For additional information on the COVID-19 Vaccine, please visit the [UTRGV Vaccine web page.](https://www.utrgv.edu/commitment/vaccine/index.htm)

Teaching Philosophy

**A Note to Students:**

***Welcome to General Chemistry! I look forward to spending the next 15 weeks with you, learning an incredibly fun and applicable subject. Think of me as your ‘Chemistry Coach’. Please feel free to stop me in class and ask questions by ‘raising your hand’ in the virtual classroom- alternatively visit with me during my office hours. I will do my best to answer your questions and as a bonus, I promise that I will not eat you. The most updated information for class can be downloaded from the class Blackboard site. Your comments will help me to more effectively tailor classes so that the maximum benefit is gained by YOU, my students. Your CANDID participation IS greatly appreciated!!***

***There are some things that you can do to ensure you are successful in this course.***

1. ***Before coming to class, do your homework and glance over what will be covered for the day***
2. ***Come to all of your lectures, be on time and pay attention.*** *Jot down notes on what is being covered in class. Do the problems in class and follow along when the solution is being discussed. The more active your role is in your learning, the greater your chances for your success.*
3. ***Ask questions- we are all here to learn so don’t be shy.*** *During my ‘Ask me a question’ time. If you have any question, no matter how small or trivial…ASK IT!*
4. ***Minimize distractions during lecture*** *such as sending and receiving texts, calls, checking social media etc.*
5. ***Review what we did in class and your class notes at the end of the day.*** *Go over the problems and concepts. Use your textbook and other resources posted on Blackboard to help you to understand the material better.*
6. ***Do your homework and get lots of practice.*** *Listening to an idea being explained or watching a problem being solved is not the same as applying the idea yourself or solving the problem yourself. To see if you really know how to do a problem,* ***you have to do the problem****. To be ready for an exam, you have to be able to do the problem in less than 2 minutes.*
7. ***Keep up with the course material****: It is very difficult to “catch up” with the material in chemistry once you get behind, so try your best to keep up!*
8. ***Figure out what it takes for you to master the material… I call it ‘becoming the ninja’.***

***Jo***

## Learning Outcomes for CHEM 1311

The overall goal in terms of learning outcomes is to help you to have meaningful learning of the topics we will cover in this introductory General Chemistry course. This meaningful learning involves two main types of learning: a) learning to use formulas, equations, and procedures to carry out calculations and similar types of operations, and b) learning ideas and concepts in order to be able to explain and apply them in possibly new and different situations.

The end of each chapter in the textbook has a section with a review checklist, in which important terms, key equations, a summary of facts and concepts, and operational skills are outlined. The key equations and operational skills are important for the type of learning outlined in part a) above, while the important terms and summary of facts and concepts are important for the type of learning in part b) above. Use these resources!

## Specific Chemistry Learning Outcomes

Students will learn and be able to apply elementary concepts of chemistry including demonstrating an understanding of the following:

1. Define the fundamental properties of matter.

2. Classify matter, compounds, and chemical reactions.

3. Determine the basic nuclear and electronic structure of atoms.

4. Identify trends in chemical and physical properties of the elements using the Periodic Table.

5. Describe the bonding in and the shape of simple molecules and ions.

6. Solve stoichiometric problems.

7. Write chemical formulas.

8. Write and balance equations.

9. Use the rules of nomenclature to name chemical compounds.

10. Define the types and characteristics of chemical reactions.

11. Use the gas laws and basics of the Kinetic Molecular Theory to solve gas problems.

12. Determine the role of energy in physical changes and chemical reactions.

13. Convert units of measure and demonstrate dimensional analysis skills.

Here is an overview (Please refer to each chapter folder on Blackboard for more specifics):

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Student Learning Outcomes** | **Program**  **Student Learning Outcomes** | **Standards** | **Major Course Requirement/Major Assignment/Examination** |
| 1. Define the fundamental properties of matter. | Representing fundamental properties of matter using simple drawings | Be able to describe and draw models to describe the properties | Incourse quiz 1 and Exam 4 |
| 2. Classify matter, compounds, and chemical reactions. | Understanding fundamental properties of matter using simple models | Be able to describe and draw models to describe the properties | Incourse quiz 1 and Exam 4 |
| 3. Determine the basic nuclear and electronic structure of atoms. | Understanding fundamental properties of matter using simple models | Be able to describe and draw models to describe the properties | Incourse quiz 1, 3 and Exam 4, Exam 3 |
| 4. Identify trends in chemical and physical properties of the elements using the Periodic Table. | Understanding fundamental properties of matter using simple models | Be able to describe and draw models to describe the properties | Incourse quiz 3 and Exam 3 |
| 5. Describe the bonding in and the shape of simple molecules and ions. | Understanding fundamental properties of matter using simple models | Be able to describe and draw models to describe the properties | Incourse quiz 3 and Exam 3 |
| 6. Solve stoichiometric problems. | Understanding fundamental properties of matter using simple models, using and applying basic equations and formulas | Be able to describe and draw models to describe basic concepts, applying formulas for doing calculations | Incourse quiz 1 and Exam 1 |
| 7. Write chemical formulas. | Representing atoms using Chemistry symbols | Writing formulas to describe chemical combinations | Incourse quiz 1 and Exam 1, Quiz 4 and Exam 4 |
| 8. Write and balance equations. | Representing atoms using Chemistry symbols | Writing formulas to describe chemical combinations | Incourse quiz 1 and Exam 1, Quiz 4 and Exam 4 |
| 9. Use the rules of nomenclature to name chemical compounds. | Representing atoms using Chemistry symbols | Writing formulas to describe chemical combinations | Incourse quiz 1 and Exam 1, Quiz 4 and Exam 4 |
| 10. Define the types and characteristics of chemical reactions. | Representing atoms using Chemistry symbols, classifying reactions | Understanding chemical reactions and their classification | Incourse quiz 1 and Exam 1, |
| 11. Use the gas laws and basics of the Kinetic Molecular Theory to solve gas problems. | Representing atoms using Chemistry symbols and models | Applying the gas law equations | Incourse quiz 2 and Exam 2 |
| 12. Determine the role of energy in physical changes and chemical reactions. | Understanding energy changes associated with chemical reactions | Applying equations associated with thermodynamics | Incourse quiz 2 and Exam 2 |
| 13. Convert units of measure and demonstrate dimensional analysis skills. | Understanding how units work when doing calculations using equations | Applying dimensional analysis | Incourse quiz 1 and Exam 1 |

**Learning Objectives for Core Curriculum Requirements (if applicable)**

In addition to these general chemistry content learning outcomes above, there are several specific learning objectives for this course to satisfy the Core Curriculum Requirements. The first learning objective is to develop **critical thinking skills**, through which you are able to interpret and analyze data, models, laws, and theories in order to explain, evaluate, and predict outcomes of various chemical scenarios. In order to measure the outcome of this learning objective, general chemistry exams will be evaluated to determine the average proportions of the exams focused on critical thinking. These evaluation results will serve as a proxy for the level of emphasis of critical thinking skills in the course.

The second learning objective is to develop **communication skills**, so that you are able to communicate your knowledge and understanding of chemistry to both your peers and your instructors, and so that you are able to effectively evaluate chemical information from various sources, including scientific literature and the media. In order to measure the outcome of this learning objective, instructors will be provided with a survey asking them to report on the frequency with which they have their students working in groups or teams in order to assess the environment for the development of communication skills among students and their peers.

The third learning objective is to develop **empirical and quantitative skills**, so that you can effectively engage in using formulas, equations, and procedures to carry out the various calculations and similar types of operations involved in quantitative aspects of chemistry. In order to measure the outcome of this learning objective, general chemistry exams will be evaluated to determine the average proportions of the exams focused on quantitative skills. These evaluation results will serve as a proxy for the level of emphasis of quantitative skills in the course.

The fourth learning objective is to develop **teamwork skills**, so that you can effectively engage in and contribute to group activities focused on the development and construction of knowledge and understanding of chemical principles, as well as the practice and application of chemical skills and principles. In order to measure the outcome of this learning objective, instructors will be provided with a survey asking them to report on the frequency with which they have their students working in groups or teams in order to assess the environment for the development of team work skills among students and their peers. In this course teamwork is not formally graded, but you will work in small groups during class to answer questions and solve problems. If you continue to work in such groups outside class, whether for homework or for studying, you may positively impact your performance on homework and exams.

| **Core Objectives** | **UTRGV Student Learning Outcome Statement** | **Core Area Requiring this SLO** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Critical Thinking** | Students will demonstrate comprehension of a variety of written texts and other information sources by analyzing and evaluating the logic, validity, and relevance of the information in them to solve challenging problems, to arrive at well-reasoned conclusions, and to develop and explore new questions. | All Core Areas |
| **Communication Skills** | Students will demonstrate the ability to adapt their communications to a particular context, audience, and purpose using language, genre conventions, and sources appropriate to a specific discipline and/or communication task. | All Core Areas |
| **Empirical & Quantitative Skills** | Students will be able to make and communicate informed conclusions and predictions based on the interpretation, manipulation, and analysis of empirical and quantitative data. | Math, Life & Physical Sciences, Social & Behavioral Sciences |
| **Teamwork** | Students will collaborate effectively with others to solve problems and complete projects while demonstrating respect for a diversity of perspectives. | Communication, Life & Physical Sciences, Creative Arts |
| **Social Responsibility** | Students will recognize and describe cultural diversity, the role of civic engagement in society, and the link between ethics and behavior. | Language, Philosophy, & Culture; Creative Arts; American History; Government & Political Science; Social & Behavioral Sciences |
| **Personal Responsibility** | Students will demonstrate an awareness of the range of human values and beliefs that they draw upon to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making. | Communication; Language, Philosophy, & Culture; American History; Government & Political Science |

# Textbook, TECHNOLOGY, and/or Resource Material

## Required materials:

* Achieve with Macmillan Interactive General Chemistry ( See the Achieve Access link on Blackboard’s left pane) Cost for one semester access is about $56
* Non-programmable calculator with scientific notation;
* UTRGV e-mail address
* Your enrollment in this course requires that you use Respondus Lockdown Browser and Respondus Monitor for online assessment proctoring. LockDown Browser is a custom browser that locks down the testing environment within Blackboard and replaces regular browsers such as Chrome, Firefox, and Safari. Respondus Monitor requires you to have a webcam and microphone as it will record you while taking your assessment. **YOUR ACTIVITIES ARE RECORDED WHILE YOU ARE LOGGED INTO OR TAKING YOUR ASSESSMENT(S).  THE RECORDINGS SERVE AS A PROCTOR AND WILL BE REVIEWED AND USED IN AN EFFORT TO MAINTAIN ACADEMIC INTEGRITY.**
* You can also find more detailed information on [Lockdown Browser and Monitor](https://www.utrgv.edu/online/getting-support/student-support/respondus/index.htm).

Using Respondus Lockdown Browser will require the following:

* A dry erase marker and a transparent binder sheet protector or a cheap small dry erase board and marker from the Dollar store (Required for exams)
* An inexpensive external webcam with at least a 3 foot cable (**Required for exams**. **No Exceptions. Still necessary even if you have a built in camera on your laptop.** You will use the external webcam during exams to monitor your activities). Please explore your options for getting an inexpensive camera that will work with your system including borrowing from someone that you know. For suggestions of what will work, please contact COLTT.
* A clear sheet protector, sheet of white paper and dry erase marker, which you will need for doing scratch-work for online exams or you can get a small dry erase board and marker from the Dollar store.

## Optional Recommended materials:

* See Blackboard Videos located in each chapter folder

## Other materials:

* Materials for class including PowerPoints, homework assignments, homework solutions, helpful videos are posted on the class Blackboard site under the ‘Course materials’ left page tab in the relevant textbook chapter folders.
* Other helpful materials such as ‘Strategies for Academic Success’ or announcements that may be of interest to students are located under the ‘Resources’ left page tab.

AbSENCE/SICK POLICY:

Class Recordings:

The use of recordings will enable you to have access to class lectures, group discussions, etc. in the event you have to miss a synchronous or face to face class meeting due to illness or other extenuating circumstance. Our use of such technology is governed by the Federal Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), UTRGV’s acceptable-use policy, and UTRGV HOP Policy STU 02-100 Student Conduct and Discipline. A recording of class sessions will be kept and stored by UTRGV, in accordance with FERPA and UTRGV policies. Your instructor will not share the recordings of your class activities outside of course participants, which include your fellow students, teaching assistants, or graduate assistants, and any guest faculty or community-based learning partners with whom we may engage during a class session. **You may not share recordings outside of this course.** Doing so may result in disciplinary action under UTRGV HOP Policy STU 02-100 Student Conduct and Discipline.

# Technical Requirements

### Computer Hardware

To participate in this online course, you should have easy access to a computer less than 5-years old with high-speed internet connection via cable modem, LAN or DSL **and an external webcam**. To ensure you are using a supported browser and have required plug-ins please refer to [Supported Browsers, Plugins & Operating Systems for Blackboard Learn](https://en-us.help.blackboard.com/Learn/Student/New/Browser_Support/000_Supported_Browsers) from Blackboards’ resource page.

To ensure that your computer hardware and software can support your participation in this course, before class begins, please check http://www.utrgv.edu/online/getting-support/student-support/system-requirements/index.htm

### Student Technical Computer Skills

You are expected to be proficient with installing and using basic computer applications and have the ability to send and receive email attachments.

### Software

* Microsoft Office’s [Internet Explorer](http://windows.microsoft.com/en-US/internet-explorer/products/ie/home) (latest version) or Mozilla’s [Firefox](http://www.getfirefox.com) (latest version; Macintosh or Windows)

Or Google [Chrome](https://support.google.com/chrome/answer/95346?co=GENIE.Platform%3DDesktop&hl=en) (latest version)

* Adobe’s [Flash Player & Reader](http://www.adobe.com/downloads/) plug-in (latest version).
* Virus protection
* Microsoft Office
* Respondus Lockdown Browser (available for download via Blackboard Student Support tab)

# Blackboard Support

# *If you need assistance with course technology at any time, please contact the* [*Center for Online Learning and Teaching Technology*](https://www.utrgv.edu/online/) *(COLTT).*

| **Campus:** | **Brownsville** | **Edinburg** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Location:** | Casa Bella (BCASA) 613 | Education Complex (EEDUC) 2.202 |
| **Phone:** | 956-882-6792 | 956-665-5327 |

## Toll Free: 1-866-654-4555

Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
Support Tickets Submit a Support Case via our [Ask COLTT Portal](https://utrgv.edu/coltthelp)

## 24/7 Blackboard Support

*Need Blackboard assistance after hours? You can call our main office numbers, 956-882-6792 or 956-665-5327, to speak with a support representative.*

**For technical assistance instead of contacting me, please use COLTT** as they are more familiar with diagnosing Blackboard issues and have the ability to remotely access your computer to help. If you ask me, I will have to refer you to COLTT as I am not familiar with troubleshooting many issues.

# Grading Policies

You will need a picture I.D. to take an examination. The style of the examination will be multiple choice questions and/or short answer questions. Exams will be given virtually using special software that will monitor you while taking the exam. **NOTE: once the exam begins, you cannot leave your computer until you are done. Thus, make sure you have gone to the bathroom, etc. prior to starting your exam. Additionally, it is wise to ensure that you will not be interrupted during the exam. If this is the case, it may appear that you are cheating.**

**In-course exams for virtual classroom will be done using Respondus Lockdown Browser. In-course exams and quizzes will be taken during class meeting times or at 9pm on the same day of the exam, provided that you make arrangements with me 48 hours before the scheduled exam.**

Your final grade will be determined by your Best 4 of 6 components each weighted at 25%

1. The components are 1) In-course exam 1 (25%); 2) In-course exam 2 (25%); 3) In-course exam 3 (25%); 4) In-course exam 4 (25%); 5) 4 quizzes: 6.25% each. The four Quiz grades are averaged to give an Average Quiz Grade. Total 25%; 6) Final Comprehensive exam (25%)
2. I may assign Extra credit assignments to the entire class at my discretion. This will be discussed in class and reminders for due dates will be posted on Blackboard and sent to your UTRGV e-mail.

The grading scale is as follows:

* + 100-90 = A; 80-89 = B; 70-79 = C; 60-69 = D; 59 and below = F

**Makeup Work:** Make-up Examinations:

ONLY for official university events such as a member of the band for a concert or an athlete for a contest or an approved holy day or with a medical. A makeup exam will NOT be given for ANY other circumstances. Otherwise the missed exam will be the score for dropping. Note: a grade of zero will be recorded for any missed exams.

## Netiquette

Netiquette describes the code of conduct for an online environment. It ensures respect for others and prevents misunderstandings or unintentional offenses to others. The netiquette described here is amended to ensure your success in this course.

* When you are typing or submitting a response, do not use all capital letters (caps). Caps is equal to SHOUTING YOUR MESSAGE.
* Although it is customary to use acronyms (ex. ROFL - rolling on floor laughing, BTW - by the way, or FYI - for your information) when chatting online, try to avoid using these. There may be those in this course who are not as experienced as you and may miss out on understanding.
* Although you are encouraged to participate and ask questions, it is asked that you do not spam other users (SPAM refers to unwanted or excessive email). Before sending mass emails, consider using the discussion board to post general inquiries or requesting assistance from me.

# Course Policies

## Where can you go for help with CHEM 1311?

a) **Professor**: I have office hours available, or you can schedule an appointment or e-mail me if you need help.

b) **The UTRGV Learning Assistance Center** advertises free tutoring available for a number of subject areas, including chemistry.

c) **Each other**: there are many other students enrolled in CHEM 1311, and it is a great idea to use one another as resources. Help each other, support each other, and challenge each other!

d) **Your Blackboard resources**

## Course Structure

This course will be delivered entirely online through the course management system Blackboard Learn. You will use your UTRGV account to login to the course from the [My.UTRGV.edu](https://my.utrgv.edu/home) site and under applications click on Blackboard Learn. Links on the left of the page will take you to the syllabus, latest schedule, Course materials, Resources, Blackboard Collaborate, Respondus Lockdown Browser (for taking online tests).

The course will follow the chapter structure of your text book with homework assignments that allow you to practice what we have covered in class. We will be working problems in class, so be sure to always have a calculator, pencil and paper ready. At the end of particular blocks of material, we will have a quiz and an in-course exam to see how well you mastered the topics. We will follow the outlined schedule as shown later in this syllabus. Periodically the schedule may be modified and posted online under ‘Latest Schedule’, if we move at a slightly different pace.

## Discussion Forums

###### You will find the following discussion forums in the course Blackboard site:

* General Help: Post any questions or comments you may have about course mechanics or technical issues to this forum.
* Forums related to collaborative and discussion assignments,

When to use Forums versus Email

If you have a question about course content or mechanics, I encourage you to post it to the General Help discussion forums. Doing so gives students in the course an opportunity to help one another and allows everyone to benefit from answers to your questions. Of course, don’t hesitate to email me directly if your concern is of a personal nature.

My role in discussion forums is that of a facilitator. I will occasionally correct misconceptions and/or redirect conversations that need redirecting. I may also post comments following the completion of discussion indicating my general impressions of the comments and conclusions.

## Participation

**Online courses require your active participation.** Here are some tips for success:

* In discussion forums such as working problems in groups, you learn from one another by posing questions, justifying your comments, and providing multiple perspectives. When you prepare for discussions or group work through thoughtful reflection, you contribute to your own successful learning experience as well as to the experience of your peers.
* Log in to the course frequently (at least several times per week) and check the announcements. This will keep you apprised of any course updates, progress in discussions, assignment information, and messages requiring immediate attention.
* Be aware of and keep up with the latest posted Course Schedule so that you are best prepared for group work, discussions, quizzes and exams.

## Build Rapport

If you find that you have any trouble keeping up with assignments or other aspects of the course, make sure you let your instructor know as early as possible. As you will find, building rapport and effective relationships are key to becoming an successful professional. Make sure that you are proactive and inform your instructor as soon as difficulties arise during the semester so that we can help you find a solution. **We cannot help, if we are unaware of a problem**.

## Complete Assignments, Late Work Policy, & Time Zones

All assignments including quizzes and exams for this course will be submitted electronically through Blackboard and **must be submitted by the given deadline.** Periodically, I may adjust the course schedule. This will be posted on Blackboard. It is your responsibility to keep up with these changes. At the end of the semester I will drop the two lowest component grades. This will allow for any occasional computer issues or other difficulties you have with completing assignments to be removed so that your final grade is not affected. With that in mind, absolutely no additional late or make-up work will be allowed without prior instructor approval for issues such as major medical/health problems or similar. **All due dates and times are in Central Standard Time (Rio Grande Valley, Texas).** If you are traveling or live outside of this time zone you must pay attention to the due dates and times and adjust your schedule accordingly.

## Time Commitment

Online courses are typically much more time intensive, and equally rigorous as a traditional course. This is an introductory course for science majors and as such you should expect a significant workload. As you begin this course, you would be wise to schedule 5 or more hours per week spread throughout the week for studying materials and completing assignments.

Falling behind in this course is particularly problematic because the concepts we cover are cumulative. This means that not becoming proficient with information and objectives presented and assessed in a particular week will lead to affect you as the course progresses.

## Incomplete Policy

Under emergency/special circumstances, students may petition for an incomplete grade. Please contact your course instructor if you wish to explore this option.

**Schedule:**

**Please see attached for Tentative Class Schedule and Blackboard under ‘Latest Schedule’ for the most up to date Schedule. It is the Student’s responsibility to keep up to date with this schedule.**

## Viewing exams

Students may review their exams and quizzes during my office hours. You need to set up an appointment for this as it requires special software and hardware.

ATTENDANCE:

**University policy requires that students keep up with class.** Class attendance will be taken automatically when you join the virtual classroom session and Blackboard keeps a log of when you log in to the class Blackboard site. If you choose to attend the virtual class, students should be on time. If you are disruptive in any way, you may be asked to leave the session and may be dropped from the class.

Students are expected to attend all scheduled classes. UTRGV’s attendance policy excuses students from attending class if they are participating in officially sponsored university activities, such as athletics; have been provided such an accommodation by Student Accessibility Services (SAS); for observance of religious holy days; or for military service. Accommodations related to COVID-19 should also go through SAS. Students should contact the instructor in advance of the excused absence and arrange to make up missed work or examinations.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

Members of the UTRGV community uphold the [Vaquero Honor Code](https://nam01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.utrgv.edu%2Fstudentlife%2Fabout%2Fvaquero-honor-code%2Findex.htm&data=02%7C01%7Cdavid.granado%40utrgv.edu%7C2b62b139d6dd4e81de4208d83567012f%7C990436a687df491c91249afa91f88827%7C0%7C0%7C637318063815870808&sdata=u3JK2q8UqFwgzYkzXZWeIRM%2FuNsVreezdMT5ZQr8tdE%3D&reserved=0)’s  shared values of honesty, integrity and mutual respect in our interactions and relationships. In this regard, academic integrity is fundamental in our actions, as any act of dishonesty conflicts as much with academic achievement as with the values of honesty and integrity.  Violations of academic integrity include, but are not limited to: cheating, plagiarism (including self-plagiarism), and collusion; submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person; taking an examination for another person; any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student; or the attempt to commit such acts (Board of Regents Rules and Regulations, STU 02-100, and UTRGV Academic Integrity Guidelines).  **All violations of Academic Integrity will be reported to Student Rights and Responsibilities through** [**Vaqueros Report It**](https://nam01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.utrgv.edu%2Fen-us%2Fstudent-experience%2Freport-it%2F&data=02%7C01%7Cdavid.granado%40utrgv.edu%7C2b62b139d6dd4e81de4208d83567012f%7C990436a687df491c91249afa91f88827%7C0%7C0%7C637318063815880802&sdata=AxekhYtwdB%2Baey6EThon1hqp19tXWY7HmAdrWDFIELA%3D&reserved=0)**.**

## OTHER COURSE INFORMATION

## Recommendation letters

I am more than happy to provide students with a recommendation letter. However, before asking me to do so, think about how well I know you. I can only write what I know. If I only know you as having attended my class, then that is all that I can write about. It is always best to ask for a recommendation from someone who knows you, has worked with you, and can write from broad personal experience with you.

**UTRGV POLICY STATEMENTS**

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

Students with a documented disability (physical, psychological, learning, or other disability which affects academic performance) who would like to receive reasonable academic accommodations should contact **Student Accessibility Services (SAS)** for additional information.  In order for accommodation requests to be considered for approval, the student must apply using the [*mySAS* portal](https://www.utrgv.edu/mySAS). and is responsible for providing sufficient documentation of the disability to SAS. Students are required to participate in an interactive discussion, or an intake appointment, with SAS staff. Accommodations may be requested at any time but are not retroactive, meaning they are valid once approved by SAS. Please contact SAS early in the semester/module for guidance. Students who experience a broken bone, severe injury, or undergo surgery may also be eligible for temporary accommodations.

### Pregnancy, Pregnancy-related, and Parenting Accommodations

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits sex discrimination, which includes discrimination based on pregnancy, marital status, or parental status. Students seeking accommodations related to pregnancy, pregnancy-related condition, or parenting (reasonably immediate postpartum period) should submit the request using the form found at <https://www.utrgv.edu/pregnancyandparenting> for review by **Student Accessibility Services.**

### Student Accessibility Services:

**Brownsville Campus**: Student Accessibility Services is located in 1.107 in the Music and Learning Center building (BMSLC) and can be contacted by phone at (956) 882-7374 or via email at [ability@utrgv.edu](mailto:ability@utrgv.edu).

**Edinburg Campus:** Student Accessibility Services is located in 108 University Center (EUCTR) and can be contacted by phone at (956) 665-7005 or via email at [ability@utrgv.edu](mailto:ability@utrgv.edu).

MANDATORY COURSE EVALUATION PERIOD**:**

Students are encouraged to complete an ONLINE evaluation of this course, accessed through your UTRGV account (<http://my.utrgv.edu>); you will be contacted through email with further instructions. Students who complete their evaluations will have priority access to their grades. Online evaluations will be available on or about:

Fall Module 1 (7 weeks) October 6-12, 2021

Fall Regular Term 2021 November 12- December 1, 2021

Fall Module 2 (7 weeks) December 1-7, 2021

SEXUAL MISCONDUCT and MANDATORY REPORTING:

In accordance with UT System regulations, your instructor is a “Responsible Employee” for reporting purposes under Title IX regulations and so must report to the Office of Institutional Equity & Diversity (OIED@utrgv.edu) any instance, occurring during a student’s time in college, of sexual misconduct, which includes sexual assault, stalking, dating violence, domestic violence, and sexual harassment, about which she/he becomes aware during this course through writing, discussion, or personal disclosure. More information can be found at [www.utrgv.edu/equity](https://nam01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.utrgv.edu%2Fequity&data=02%7C01%7Cdavid.granado%40utrgv.edu%7C3d4a82332e444b8e606d08d834d42073%7C990436a687df491c91249afa91f88827%7C0%7C0%7C637317432985425767&sdata=jCnOqfBL3vxfYuvYF3qtjVy4tmK9o9m%2FBghvXKfL%2FN4%3D&reserved=0), including confidential resources available on campus. The faculty and staff of UTRGV actively strive to provide a learning, working, and living environment that promotes personal integrity, civility, and mutual respect that is free from sexual misconduct, discrimination, and all forms of violence. If students, faculty, or staff would like confidential assistance, or have questions, they can contact OVAVP (Office for Victim Advocacy & Violence Prevention) at (956) 665-8287, (956) 882-8282, or [OVAVP@utrgv.edu](mailto:OVAVP@utrgv.edu).

COURSE DROPS:

According to UTRGV policy, students may drop any class without penalty earning a grade of DR (drop) until the official drop date. Following that date, students must be assigned a letter grade and can no longer drop the class. Students considering dropping the class should be aware of the “3-peat rule” and the “6-drop” rule so they can recognize how dropped classes may affect their academic success. The 6-drop rule refers to Texas law that dictates that undergraduate students may not drop more than six courses during their undergraduate career. Courses dropped at other Texas public higher education institutions will count toward the six-course drop limit. The 3-peat rule refers to additional fees charged to students who take the same class for the third time.

STUDENT SERVICES:

Students who demonstrate financial need have a variety of options when it comes to paying for college costs, such as scholarships, grants, loans and work-study. Students should visit the Student Services Center (U Central) for additional information. U Central is located in BMAIN 1.100 (Brownsville) or ESSBL 1.145 (Edinburg) or can be reached by email ([ucentral@utrgv.edu](mailto:ucentral@utrgv.edu)) or telephone: (956) 882-4026. In addition to financial aid, U Central can assist students with registration and admissions.

Students seeking academic help in their studies can use university resources in addition to an instructor’s office hours. University Resources include the Advising Center, Career Center, Counseling Center, Learning Center, and Writing Center. The centers provide services such as tutoring, writing help, counseling services, critical thinking, study skills, degree planning, and student employment. In addition, services such as the Food Pantry are also provided. Locations are listed below.

| **Center Name** | **Brownsville Campus** | **Edinburg Campus** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Advising Center**  [AcademicAdvising@utrgv.edu](mailto:AcademicAdvising@utrgv.edu) | BMAIN 1.400  (956) 665-7120 | EITTB 1.000  (956) 665-7120 |
| **Career Center**  [CareerCenter@utrgv.edu](mailto:CareerCenter@utrgv.edu) | BINAB 1.105  (956) 882-5627 | ESTAC 2.101  (956) 665-2243 |
| **Counseling Center**  [Counseling@utrgv.edu](mailto:Counseling@utrgv.edu)  [Mental Health Counseling](https://www.utrgv.edu/facultysuccess/_files/documents/syllabus-statement-for-counseling-12-16-19.pdf) and Related Services List | BSTUN 2.10  (956) 882-3897 | EUCTR 109  (956) 665-2574 |
| **Food Pantry**  [FoodPantry@utrgv.edu](mailto:FoodPantry@utrgv.edu) | BCAVL 101 & 102  (956) 882-7126 | EUCTR 114 (956) 665-3663 |
| **Learning Center**  [LearningCenter@utrgv.edu](mailto:LearningCenter@utrgv.edu) | BMSLC 2.118  (956) 882-8208 | ELCTR 100  (956) 665-2585 |
| **Writing Center**  [WC@utrgv.edu](mailto:WC@utrgv.edu) | BLIBR 3.206  (956) 882-7065 | ESTAC 3.119  (956) 665-2538 |

# Calendar of Activities:

*The UTRGV academic calendar can be found on* [*My.UTRGV*](https://my.utrgv.edu/home) *at the bottom of the screen prior to login. Some important dates for Fall 2021 include:*

*Fall Module 1*

*August 25 First day of classes.*

*August 25 Last day to add a class or register for Fall 2021 Module 1 classes.*

*October 5 Last day to drop a class or withdraw.*

*October 13 Final Exams (Term Ends)*

*October 15 Grades Due at 3 p.m.*

*Fall Regular Term*

*August 23 First day of classes.*

*August 26 Last day to add a class or register for Fall 2021 classes.*

*November 10 Last day to drop a class or withdraw.*

*December 2 Study Day – NO classes*

*December 3-9 Final Exams*

*December 13 Grades Due at 3 p.m.*

*Fall Module 2*

*October 20 First day of classes.*

*October 20 Last day to add a class or register for Fall 2021 Module 2 classes.*

*November 30 Last day to drop a class or withdraw.*

*December 8 Final Exams (Term Ends)*

*December 10 Grades Due at 3 p.m.*

**DEAN OF STUDENTS RESOURCES:**

The Dean of Students office assists students when they experience a challenge with an administrative process, unexpected situation such as an illness, accident, or family situation, and aids in resolving complaints. Additionally, the office facilitates student academic related requests for religious accommodations, support students formerly in foster care, helps to advocate on behalf of students and inform them about their rights and responsibilities, and serves as a resource and support for faculty and campus departments.

[Vaqueros Report It](https://nam01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.utrgv.edu%2Fen-us%2Fstudent-experience%2Freport-it%2F&data=02%7C01%7Cdavid.granado%40utrgv.edu%7C2b62b139d6dd4e81de4208d83567012f%7C990436a687df491c91249afa91f88827%7C0%7C0%7C637318063815880802&sdata=AxekhYtwdB%2Baey6EThon1hqp19tXWY7HmAdrWDFIELA%3D&reserved=0) allows students, staff and faculty a way to report concern about the well-being of a student, seek assistance in resolving a complaint, or report allegations of behaviors contrary to community standards or campus policies.

The Dean of Students can be reached by emailing [dos@utrgv.edu](mailto:dos@utrgv.edu), by logging into [Virtual Office hours](https://www.utrgv.edu/studentlife/about/virtual-office-hours/index.htm) in which a representative is available Monday-Friday 9:00-11:00 a.m. and 1:00-4:00 p.m, or by visiting one of the following office locations: Cavalry (BCAVL) 204 or University Center (EUCTR 323). Phone: 956-665-2260.

# Calendar of Activities:

# General Chemistry (CHEM1311.90L) Tentative Lecture Schedule Fall 2021

# The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Week | Date | Topic |
| 1 | August 23-Aug 27 | Introduction , |
| Atoms, molecules ions |
| 2 | August 30 -Sept 3 | Atoms, molecules ions/ Stoichiometry: ratios of combination |
| Stoichiometry: ratios of combination Practice quiz opens August 28 to September 3 |
| 3 | Sept 6-10 | Labor day- no class Bonus quiz 1 opens Sept 6;Bonus quiz 1 closes Sept 10 |
| Stoichiometry: ratios of combination Bonus quiz 2 opens Sept 10; Bonus, quiz 2 closes September 17 |
| 4 | Sept 13-17 | Reactions in Aqueous solutions Bonus quiz 3 opens September 17, closes September 24 |
| Reactions in Aqueous solutions |
| 5 | Sept 20- Sept 24 | Reactions in Aqueous solutions, |
| ***Gas Laws/ Tutorial over chapters Stoichiometry, Reactions in aqueous solutions*** |
| 6 | Sept 27-Oct 1 | Gas Laws **Quiz1 Chp1,2, *Stoichiometry, Reactions in aqueous solutions*** |
| Gas laws **Exam 1 over Chapter *Stoichiometry, Reactions in aqueous solutions*** |
| 7 | Oct4 -8 | ThermochemistryBonus quiz 4 (last one on Gas laws) opens Oct 4 |
| Thermochemistry |
| 8 | Oct 11 -15 | Quantum State ***Tutorial over chapter Gas Laws and Thermochemistry* Quiz 2 *(Gas Laws and Thermochemistry*)** Bonus quiz 4 closes at midnight Oct 11. |
| Quantum State/ Electron configurations and periodicity |
| 9 | Oct 18-22 | Electron configurations and periodicity |
| Electron configurations and periodicity **Exam 2 over chapter *Gas Laws and Thermochemistry*** |
| 10 | Oct 25 -Octv29 | Chemical bonding I |
| Chemical bonding I |
| 11 | Nov 1-5 | Chemical bonding I |
| Chemical bonding I ***Tutorial over chapter Quantum, electron configuration and periodicity, Chemical Bonding I*** |
| 12 | Nov 8-12 | **Quiz 3(*Quantum, electron configuration and periodicity, Chemical Bonding I*); *Nov 10 last day to drop course*** |
| Chemical bonding II , (Geometry**)** |
| 13 | Nov 15-19 | Chemical bonding II , Geometry **Exam 3 over chapter *Quantum, electron configuration and periodicity, Chemical Bonding I*** |
| Chemical bonding II , Geometry |
| 14 | Nov 22-Nov 26 | Chemical bonding II, Geometry Tutorial over chapter ***Geometry, Chp 2, 1*** |
| ***Review* Quiz 4(*Geometry, Chp 2,*) Thanksgiving Nov 25-26** |
| 15 | Nov 29- Dec 1 | **Exam 4 over chapter *Geometry, Chp 2,1;*** |
| ***Dec 2 Study Day*** |

There is a final mandatory exam **on Wednesday Dec 6 - 7.30 -10.30 am** -worth 25%.

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| --- | --- |
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**CHEM 1311 MATH QUIZ- Try working these problems to see if your math skills are sufficient for General Chemistry I**

**1) X+5= 22.5**

**2) 14.3Y= 12.9**

**3) 1.03Z + 2.1= 3.13**

**4) X2= 19**

**5) 3Y2 + 14 = Y2 + 29**

**6) Z = 3.2 X2 + 4X +2.6 WHERE X=2**

**7) 1/X = 4**

**8) 1/X = 1/7 +4**

**9) 1 / Y = Y/9**

**10) 4/ T = 3/T**