

SAFETY POLICIES

Safe practice in the chemical laboratory is a mutual responsibility and requires the full cooperation of everyone concerned at all times. This cooperation means that each student and instructor will observe safety precautions and procedures. The following general safety rules will be rigidly and impartially enforced throughout the semester. Noncompliance may result in dismissal from the lab and/or may result in a grading penalty.

1. Appropriate safety glasses must be worn at all times anywhere in the laboratory, even when not performing an experiment. Contact lenses should not be worn during the lab period.
2. Footwear should provide adequate protection against possible safety hazards (broken glass, reagent spills, etc.)
3. Food or drink will not be allowed in the laboratory.
4. Horseplay or other acts of carelessness are prohibited.

5. Unauthorized experiments are not permitted. Unapproved variations in experiments, including changes in the quantities of reagents, may be dangerous.
6. Every student is responsible for keeping his work area neat and orderly. After the experiment is over, clean the equipment and store it away correctly before you leave.
7. The instructor should be informed immediately of any safety hazards or accidents.

All accidents have causes and therefore can be prevented. Pay careful attention to what you are doing in each experiment, follow all instructions and use common sense. Be aware of what your neighbors do – you may be a victim of their accidents. Do not hesitate to comment tactfully to a neighbor whom you observe engaging in an unsafe practice. Thoroughly acquaint yourself with the location and use of emergency equipment (fire extinguishers, eye-wash stations, showers, etc.) around the lab. With the positive approach of good safety practice, all personal injuries can be avoided.

I have read and understood the safety rules outlined above. I agree to abide by them at all times while participation in Chemistry _____ laboratory, Section _____.

(Signed)_____ (Date)_____

Teaching Assistants Name_____

EMERGENCY & HEALTH INFORMATION

Please print.

Your Name _____

Campus Phone_____

Campus or Home address_____

Person to be contacted in case of an accident:

Name:_____

Phone:_____

Do you have any health problems or disabilities that may cause difficulties in the Chemistry laboratory? If so, please describe them briefly below. This information will remain confidential.

Contact lenses in Chemical Laboratories

The following is taken from "Handbook of Laboratory Safety" N.V. Stoek, Ed, 2nd ed., Chemical Rubber Co., Cleveland OH, 1971:

"Contact lenses worn by persons working in laboratories can increase injury from chemical splashes because the wearer may not be able to remove the lenses to permit thorough irrigation, and a person giving first aid may not know that contact lenses are being worn or how to remove them. It is recommend that contact lenses not be worn in laboratories in which chemicals are handled or that wearers be sure to use full eye protection at all times."

In the pamphlet, "Use of Contact Lenses in Industry," published by the Council on Occupational Health of the American Medical Association, there are three paragraphs, which are particularly applicable to wearing contact lenses in laboratories.

"Many physicians believe that the substitution of contact lenses for spectacles in industrial workers is contraindicated in workers whose eyes may be exposed to dusts, molten metals, or irritant chemicals. Small foreign bodies,

which normally are washed away by tears, sometimes become lodged beneath contact lenses where they may cause injury to the cornea. Similarly chemicals splashed into the eye may be trapped under a contact lens and cause extensive corneal damage before the lens can be removed and the eye adequately irrigated."

"For effective protection for the eyes, the contact lens wearer should use in addition to his contact lenses the same approved face shields. Conventional safety spectacles, or goggles for protection against job hazards, as would any other worker on a similar job. Since removal of a contact lens for urgent irrigation after injury is made is so difficult by spasms of the eyelids, the contact lens wearer is in even greater need of these protections that his or her counterpart who does not wear contact lenses, if the job carries high potential risk of eye injury."

"Contact lenses are not in themselves protective devices in fact may increase the degree of injury to the eyes. Contact lens wearers in similar employment should wear the same eye-protective device used by other workers."

I have been informed of and understood the hazards associated with wearing contact lenses in the laboratory. I agree to wear safety goggles at all times while participating in Chemistry _____ laboratory.

Signed _____ Date _____