



Barack Obama Academy of International Studies

515 N. Highland Avenue | Pittsburgh, PA 15206
Phone: 412-529-5980 | Fax: 412-622-5983

September 2016

Dear Parent/Guardian

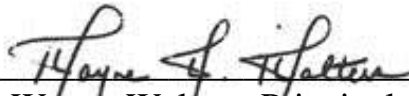
Welcome to the 2016-2017 MYP Chemistry course. This course will cover a lot of material, and in order for the students to reach their full potential, I would like you to become a partner in your student's education. One of the ways to do this is to be aware of the curriculum, academic standards, and behavioral expectations for this course. Please review the information provided in this document and keep it for reference.

If you have any questions regarding the course, or would like to contact me for any reason throughout the year, do not hesitate at [jcollinger1@pghboe.net](mailto:collinger1@pghboe.net) or via phone at (412) 529-2289.

Thanks,

Mr. Justin Collinger

Approved: _____


Dr. Wayne Walters, Principal



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Course Title: MYP Chemistry

Grade: 10

Instructor: Mr. Justin Collinger

School Phone: 412-529-2289

Email: jcollinger1@pghboe.net

Course Description

The MYP Chemistry curriculum will provide our students with a rigorous chemistry course that stresses fundamental concepts, while requiring students to problem solve and apply math skills. Students are encouraged to develop their own explanations for the behavior of matter based on observations from their own laboratory work, observations of the world around them, data collected by other scientists, and building their own learning. The guiding questions of this course are:

- Why is chemistry so important for understanding the world around us?
- Why is experimentation essential for scientific progress?
- What are the building blocks of matter and how do we understand them?
- What are the rules that determine how matter rearranges itself?
- How does an increasing understanding of chemistry benefit humanity?

Course Material

The students are given Prentice Hall Chemistry, by authors Wilbraham, Staley, Matta, and Waterman. Students and parents are responsible for damage to, or loss of, the textbook.

GRADING CRITERIA:

Grades will be given based on the current assignments point value. The work is weighted based on the type of assignment (example: tests are more valuable than homework)

Type of assignments and weight:

Tests/ Major Exams/ quizzes	25%
Labs/Projects/ class work	25%
Homework	10%
Writing	20%
Participation	20%





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The Barack Obama Academy of International Studies implementation of the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme also assesses students based on 4 objectives in science. These are:

- Objective A – Knowing and understanding
- Objective B – Inquiring and designing
- Objective C – Processing and developing
- Objective D – Reflecting on impacts in Science

Grade Scale percent as per school board guidelines

A= 90-100%

B = 80-89%

C = 70-79%

D = 60-69%

Below 60 % is failing for the course

Classroom Rules and Expectations:

1. Be on time
 - This means you are **in the room, getting seated, and completing your bell ringer when the bell rings**
 - **Tardy Policy**- a student is considered tardy if he/she is not in the room when the tardy bell rings. Four tardies will result in a referral to the office.
2. Come prepared to class
 - Come ready to learn. Bring binder, notebook, assignments, and writing utensils, **every day**
3. **No food or drink (this includes gum) in the science laboratory area.** It is a biological hazard especially when we are working with chemicals.
4. **Cell phones and other electronic devices cannot be used in the classroom.**
5. Be respectful to teachers (including substitutes) and peers
 - **DO NOT** prevent another student from learning or a teacher from teaching
 - Address each other respectfully
6. Follow directions
 - Read or listen to directions carefully and follow them when given **the first time**
7. Follow safety procedures at all times
 - Complete safety quiz, sign safety contract, refer to safety guidelines often
8. Use all science equipment properly and for its specific purpose only
9. Respect my property
 - If you need to borrow something just ask
 - Use materials sparingly
 - Cabinets and drawers are off limits unless permission is given by me



Daily Routines:

Warm up

A warm up will be provided each day that must be completed within the first 5 minutes of class.

Daily Assignment

Each day the lesson, including homework, will be posted on the board. I suggest students copy the entire posting into notebook to help with organization, and, if necessary, parents can check notebooks/binders regularly to see if your child is completing his/her work.

In addition, each class will be given a Google Classroom code that will allow them to view a summary of the day's work and any assignments for that day.

Homework

Homework is designed to help each child reach his/her academic potential and develop habits of self-discipline and responsibility.

Homework assignments are intended to help students:

- Develop** independent study habits
- Reinforce** classroom learning
- Enrich** their lives through independent projects
- Involve** parents with their child's education

Homework must be turned in on time (during your class period), **late homework receives half credit**. The work should always be completed (even if not turned in on time) as all assignments are relevant to being successful in the course and on tests.

Not understanding is not a valid excuse for not completing it. If you are struggling with an assignment you should see me during a free period or email me.

Make-up work

If a student is absent and needs missing work, they can see me after class.

Students will have time to make up work if absent (with a legal excuse). They have the same number of days to do the work as they were absent. Make-up work should be completed at home or during tutorials, not during class. **Students are responsible for asking for make-up work when they are absent.**

Tests

If a test is announced several class periods in advance, and a student is absent the class period immediately preceding the test, he/she may still be required to take the test without being given extra time.

In addition, silence is required during a test so all of the students can focus. If caught talking, the student will receive a verbal warning. If the behavior continues, they will



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lose 25% of their score after the second warning, and will receive a zero if caught talking again.

School Activity Absence

If a student has an absence due to a school activity he/she is still required to turn in any work and take any tests without being given extra time (make special arrangements before the absence).

Extra Credit

Students are expected to turn work in one time and study for their tests. Failure to do so will result in a lower grade, and no extra credit will be given to make up for missing work.

Laboratory Activities

Always follow the safety rules and procedures during lab activities. Not following safety rules can lead to accidents and injuries and your removal from the lab. If removal from the classroom becomes necessary you will receive a 0 for the day without the ability to make-up the work. At the end of each lab/activity your space must be cleaned up and materials returned.

Lab make-up

It is not always possible to make up a lab so it is imperative you make every effort to be present.



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Student's Name _____

Please leave contact information below and indicate which method you prefer to be contacted. Note: phone calls will normally be made at 3:00 pm.

Parent/Guardian Phone: _____

Parent/Guardian Phone: _____

Parent/Guardian email address: _____

Student Signature:

I have read the class outline for Mr. Collinger's MYP Chemistry class. I understand and accept the class policies. I understand that I am expected to apply myself to the course and that I will take responsibility for my own actions while in this class.

Student Signature

Please Print Your Name

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature:

I have read and understand the class procedure for Mr. Collinger's MYP Chemistry class. I agree that my child will abide by these guidelines, and I understand that my child is expected to apply him or herself and take responsibility for his or her own actions.

Parent Signature

Please Print Your Name

Date

