

**Concepts in Chemistry (online)**  
**SMC First Class Spring 2021**

<b>Professor Information:</b>	Dr. Christina M. Chant E-mail: <a href="mailto:cchant@smcvt.edu">cchant@smcvt.edu</a>
<b>Office Hours and Contact:</b>	Asynchronous. Please e-mail me with questions (especially ones that are personal) or post a question to the Discussions board (for questions you don't mind others seeing). I will answer within 24-48 hours. I will also be on Chat (online on Canvas) every Sunday and Thursday evening from 8-9 PM; you are free to drop in during that time.
<b>Lecture Text:</b>	<b>Hill's Chemistry for Changing Times</b> , 15th edition, Pearson. This is available as an e-book as well. You should also have access to MasteringChemistry (the online homework site) through Pearson.
<b>Online Presence Requirement:</b>	You are expected to log in at least 4 days each week (you will lose points if you have not logged in for more than 2 days in a row).
<b>Class Structure and Etiquette:</b>	<p>This course is designed for non-science majors. It assumes no prior knowledge of chemistry. Selected topics are explored in order to allow the student to understand the interaction of science and society. The goal is to enable you to think scientifically and to explore topics in chemistry that touch on your lives. You will be expected to know the material presented in class and the information in all assigned problems and readings.</p> <p>There will also be optional modules throughout the course for students who are planning to take General Chemistry I at St. Mike's – these modules will be short but will help you prepare for some of the rigors of the General Chemistry sequence. More information will be given closer to the start of the course.</p> <p>Because of the format of the class, it is extremely important that you are respectful in your interactions. Please try to be punctual about posting and submitting assignments. Late assignments will lose points or will not be accepted.</p> <p><b>Attendance is mandatory.</b> If you have an excused, documented absence that will keep you from participating for more than 2 days, please inform me as soon as possible (preferably prior to the day itself). Attendance will affect your class participation; your final grade will also be lowered by 2% for each day after two that you do not log into Canvas. Please note that, due to the brevity of the course, if you will miss more than 4 days of material, you should contact me to determine the best course of action.</p>

<b>Student Evaluation:</b>	<p>40% Class Participation/Online Assignments 45% Mid-Term Exams 15% Project (See below) *Please note – this and the information contained on this syllabus are subject to change based on the needs of the class and how the course is proceeding. Should expectations as covered by this syllabus change, I will inform the class and post a modified syllabus.</p> <p><u>Participation:</u> You are expected to participate in this course, both on the Discussion board and on any group assignments. We will be discussing topics and issues as a class, both formally and informally. Generally, you will be expected to post one post to each Discussion board and respond to at least two other student posts. The Discussion grading rubric is online; your posts will be graded using it. If my expectations differ from this, I will describe the changes in the Discussions board.</p> <p><i>Online Assignments</i> will be assigned about 3-4 times a week. Most of the time, this will consist of reading sections of the text and completing online assignments through MasteringChemistry (Pearson). These will be posted under Assignments in Canvas. In addition, some assignments may require watching a short video, a recorded lesson, doing a survey, posting to the Discussion board, etc. See below for more information on each of these topics. Lab activities will be added where appropriate so you can carry out fun chemistry at home.</p> <p>I will post a checklist for every week as to the things that are due; this will include their due dates and other relevant information.</p> <p><u>Mid-Term Exams:</u> Three <i>mid-term exams</i> (each worth an equal amount) will be given, spaced equally throughout the semester. The third exam will be scheduled for the last day of class. These exams will consist mostly of multiple-choice/true-false questions and will be timed. You can start the exam at any time on the day it is opened, but you will only have a certain amount of time to finish the exam.</p> <p><b>Make-up exams will be given ONLY in the event of an official College-approved absence such as a death in the immediate family or a serious illness.</b> If you miss an exam, you must notify me <i>and</i> provide an acceptable excuse within 24 hours of the exam's scheduled time. If you do not, you will not be permitted to take a make-up exam and will receive a zero grade for this exam. In the case of illness, you</p>
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	<p><i>must</i> provide a note signed by a physician stating that you could not take the exam during the scheduled exam period for medical reasons. Make-up exams may not follow the exact format as the original exam.</p>
<b>Final Project:</b>	<p>You will be responsible for choosing, researching, and presenting on a final project. This will be due the Wednesday before the final exam. I will give you guidelines as to what I expect from your project; however, the actual presentation of the material is up to you. You will select your topic by a certain date and make sure I approve of your choice. You can then research it and present it using a variety of methods.</p> <p>After you have researched your project, you will be responsible for presenting it to the class. For example, you can develop a brief presentation, a video, a lesson plan, a short musical selection (with my approval), etc., as long as it conveys all of the appropriate information about your topic.</p>
<b>Approximate Grading Scale:</b>	<p>A: higher than 93%  A-: 90%-93%  B+: 87%-90%  B: 83%-87%  B-: 80%-83%  C+: 77%-80%  C: 73%-77%  C-: 70%-73%  D+: 67%-70%  D: 63%-67%  F: less than 63%</p> <p>This scale may be changed at the discretion of the professor.</p>
<b>Late Work Policy:</b>	<p>Any work submitted late will be penalized 10% of the total points for that assignment per <u>day</u>. If special circumstances occur, please see me ahead of time.</p>
<b>Canvas:</b>	<p>Because this is an online course, you are expected to be able to use the appropriate technology tools. SMC IT is available for IT questions.</p>
<b>Honor Policy:</b>	<p>Students are required to abide by the SMC Policy on Academic Integrity, which can be found here: <a href="#">SMC Policy on Academic Integrity</a>.</p>

<b>Special Services:</b>	Saint Michael's College is devoted to ensuring equal educational opportunities and a responsive campus environment for students with disabilities. Support is provided through the Office for Accessibility Services. For more information or questions, contact Toni Messuri, Liaison for Students with Special Needs (amessuri@smcvt.edu or 654-2818).
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Tentative schedule (subject to change):

Week 1: Introduction to course, the Fundamentals – Chapter 1

Week 2: The Fundamentals continued – Chapter 2; Introduction to Structure and Bonding – Chapter 3

Week 3: Structure and Bonding continued – Chapters 3 and 4

Week 4: Structure and Bonding continued – Chapter 5; Intermolecular Forces and Phases – Chapter 6

Week 5: Chemical Reactions – Chapters 7 and 8

Week 6: Reactions continued – Chapter 8; Organic Chemistry part I – Chapter 9

Week 7: Organic Chemistry part II – Chapter 10; Nuclear Chemistry – Chapter 11

Week 8: Nuclear Chemistry continued – Chapter 11; Introduction to Energy – Chapter 15

Week 9: Energy continued – Chapter 15; Topic TBD

Week 10: Final projects, final exam, and wrap-up