

Chemistry Lab Syllabus 2024-2025

Credo Academy – Centennial, CO

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“For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse.” Romans 1:20 (NASB)

This two-hour class is the lab component of a two-semester high school chemistry course using the Berean Builders text, *Discovering Design with Chemistry* by Dr. Jay L. Wile. The text and class is taught from a Biblical worldview acknowledging God as creator of all.

The text has 16 chapters and 46 experiments. Credo has two 15-week semesters. Thus, I will not be covering all the content in your text and we will not be doing all the lab activities in class. I plan to cover Chapters 1-8 in the fall semester and Chapters 9-16 in the spring semester. I encourage you to work through the book at your own pace. So your schedule at home may not match up exactly with my lab schedule at Credo. That is okay as there is over a month break between fall and spring semesters and there is the month of May after Credo is done for the year. Each chapter will take about 2 weeks to complete and students should plan on at least 3 hours per week to read the text, work through the “Comprehension Check” problems, and answer the “Review Questions.” In addition, there will be about 2 hours per week preparing for lab and completing the lab write-ups. Approximately the first 30-45 minutes of each class will be a lecture and/or question and answer format explaining concepts and working through example problems from the text. The second part of each class will be spent doing the experiments (activities or demonstrations) from the chapter. This will vary from week to week.

Instructor will provide all the necessary equipment, materials, and supplies to complete the lab activities during class. Occasionally, a lab may require special items to be brought from home.

Parent responsibilities will include monitoring and grading all the work from the text (“Comprehension Check” problems and Review Questions) and proctoring and grading the chapter tests. I will grade lab notebooks and experiment write-ups (lab reports). My recommendation is that 1. Homework and Assignments; 2. Tests and Quizzes; and 3. Lab (my grade) be weighted about 1/3 each of your total course grade.

Required Text:

Berean Builders *Discovering Design with Chemistry* by Dr. Jay L. Wile.

[ISBN: 978-0-9962784-6-1]

Parents will also need the *Answer Key and Tests* book. [ISBN:978-0-9962784-7-8]

Other Required Materials: (These should be brought to class each week.)

3-ring binder (1”-1½”) with loose leaf paper and 4 dividers, (used solely for chemistry)

Ruler (metric), pencils, pens, colored pencils (8-12 colors is sufficient), scissors

Calculator (smart phone is acceptable)

Lab coat (or lab apron or a big shirt will do), **safety goggles** (splash guard and impact resistant)

Student and Class Expectations:

1. Students are expected to arrive to class on time and be ready to participate in each week's lesson. If it is necessary for you to be absent, please text (or email) me as soon as possible. If you are contacting me with late notice (after 6pm on Wednesday or Thursday morning) it is best to text. Zoom is always an option if I have enough notice to set it up. Students can attend the zoom session or watch the zoom recording.
2. **Students are expected to supply their own lab coats and safety goggles each week.** Your class participation grade will be lowered by repeated failure to have required and necessary materials each week.
3. Students are expected to read and complete the assignments each week. In case of absence from class, notification by email or text is requested. With proper communication, any work due can be turned in the following week. I prefer a hard copy to be submitted rather than getting your work electronically.
4. Even though most labs are performed with a partner or two, each student should write their own lab report. All work should be completed with integrity. Be careful to avoid plagiarism. Cite your sources using APA format. Go to the website www.plagiarism.org for more information.
5. Late lab write-ups will be reduced by a letter grade if turned in within 1 week of due date and will only receive half credit if 2 weeks late. Work more than 2 weeks late will not be accepted. Exceptions may be possible in case of extenuating circumstances, but communication with a parent may be required.
6. Students are expected to take notes each week in class. I prefer handwritten notes, but you may take pictures of class notes on the white board and print them to put into your notebook. If absent, you should get notes from another student in the class or ask me for a picture. As a minimum, your weekly notes should include the information on the white board, but you can also take notes from the TV screen, my verbal instructions, announcements, and lectures. Sometimes it might be a good idea to note what we did in class.
7. Students should keep an organized and neat notebook to include weekly class notes, graded lab write-ups, course documents, and any handouts provided by instructor. Notebooks will be checked randomly and graded at the end of each semester.
8. I expect students to behave in a mature manner. No snickering or inappropriate comments will be tolerated. Students will be asked to leave class if they cannot handle themselves properly. Parents will be notified.
9. There will be a **Laboratory Safety Contract** to be signed by each student and their parent. This should be printed and signed and kept in your chemistry notebook.
10. From time to time there may be an extra credit or optional assignment.

Grading Policy:

1. Your semester lab grade will include lab reports, class participation, and notebook grade.
 2. A midterm and final lab grade will be given each semester.
 3. Grading scale:

90-100% = A	60-69% = D
80-89% = B	Below 60% = F
70-79% = C	
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This syllabus is proposed as of 8/10/24 for the school year 2024-2025 at Credo Academy and is for informational purposes only.

Please print the Syllabus (need not be printed in color), read, sign the Syllabus Acknowledgement, and put them into your Chemistry Notebook by the first day of class.

Syllabus Acknowledgement

We have read and understand the Chemistry Syllabus as put forth by Mrs. Dixon. Any questions, complaints, or concerns can be discussed in class or privately with her or communicated via email.

Printed Student Name

Student Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date