Chemistry 366

Spring 2008



Thermodynamics



Instructor	Professor E. Peacock-López, x2434, Thompson Chemistry Lab (TCL) 212 email: epeacock@williams.edu
Office Hours	By appointment (call or email) Room TCL 212
Lecture	Tues-Thurs: 9:55 – 11:10am, TCL 202
Labs	Monday1:00 – 5:00pm, MSL 253
Discussion	Sundays, 9:00-10:00 pm, TCL 104B
Textbook	<i>Physical Chemistry</i> , T. Engel and P. Reid, Pearson:SanFrancisco, 2006. Available at Water Street Books (26 Water St, 458-8071).
Course Website	http://www.williams.edu/Chemistry/epeacock/ Click on "Teaching" and select "CHEM366"

Procedures and Policies

- Lecture Regular attendance is important and expected. Please arrive on time. Late arrivals are very disturbing for the entire class. There is no second entrance to the lecture, so be very quite if you arrive late and do not disturb the class. The lecture will cover new material. Sample problems will be done in the discussion session.
- **Discussion** This is an open question and answer session, attendance is not required. Come if you have questions regarding the lecture material, lab reports, or problem sets. We will cover problem set solution skills and work sample problems together. No new material will be introduced in these sessions.
- Labs Attendance is mandatory. You must complete all laboratory assignments in order to pass the course. No unexcused absences are permitted. If it is necessary to be absent from a regular lab period for important reasons, you must contact me in advance. Your ride leaving early on Tuesday during the week before Spring Break does not qualify as an important reason.

The laboratory manual will be handed out in class. A lab notebook, lock, and goggles will be provided during the first lab period. You must wear goggles and shoes with closed toes (no sandals) at all times in the lab. No exceptions.

Lab Reports Read the general lab guidelines and advice on lab reports, data analysis, preparation of graphs, note keeping, etc. in the lab manual before your first lab and refresh your memory after a few weeks. There are examples for all

of the above in the lab manual as well as help files online. Lab reports and worksheets are due at the beginning of lab in the week after the experiment.

Problem Sets Weekly problem sets will be available online (or handed out in class if you prefer a paper copy). Problem sets are due either in class or in my mailbox by the end of the day, 5:00 PM. Solutions will be available after the due date in the web page. Problem sets are a learning and study tool for you – they do not count much for the final grade. Feel free to work in groups to solve the problems, come to the discussion sessions with questions, get help where you can: I

want all of you to score close to 100% on the problem sets.

- **Group Work** I encourage collaboration on problem sets and discussion of lab results; often groups form spontaneously in the library. Discuss the problems to reach a solution together. However, you must hand in (and take responsibility for) your own solutions. Please acknowledge assistance received from fellow students. (see "Honor Code")
- Late Policy I realize that your semester will create some busy periods and I allow you to be late on lab reports by a total of two weeks (one lab report by two weeks or two lab reports by one week each), to spread out your workload a little. However, I do not want to encourage procrastination, so beyond that I will have to reduce your lab report grade points by 50% for each week that the report is late.

As far as problem sets are concerned: your fellow students might want to study the solutions as soon as possible after the due date, so unfortunately I can not give you a grace period on problem sets, but I will discard the two lowest grades.

- **Handouts** I will hand out additional readings during class. Most of them will be related to the lecture material, some are just of general interest. I believe that these handouts will widen your horizon, connect the lecture to real-world examples, and give you a flavor of modern chemistry. However, reading them is not required.
- **Calculators** A scientific calculator is very useful for the class. Most students bring graphical calculators and we will make use of their advanced features, but a regular scientific calculator is fine. The science library has several calculators that you can check out for a limited amount of time.
- **Exams** There will be two exams on two Wednesdays during the semester (March 4th, and April 17th) at class time. A final comprehensive exam will be given during finals week as scheduled by the registrar. Exams will be based on material covered in class, problem sets, and labs. No need to memorize endless equations: I will provide a sheet with equations, constants, formulas, etc. Practice exams with solutions will be available on the web.
- **Honor Code** Collaboration on problem sets and the discussion of the lecture and your lab results with your fellow students is highly encouraged, simply cite all sources (journals, books, people you had discussions with you do not need to reference topics discussed in lecture) in your written work.

However, collaboration is not allowed for any other written work in the course (lab reports, exams). Copying problem sets (or lab reports) from students who take or have previously taken Chemistry 361 and handing them in as your own work is considered cheating. If you have questions about how the Honor Code, as described in the Statement of Academic Honesty in the Student Handbook, applies to work in this course, please ask me.

- **Conflicts** If you notice a scheduling conflict with any of the listed activities, please notify me at the beginning of the semester. We will schedule a makeup or otherwise accommodate you.
- **Other Issues** Students with disabilities who may need disability related classroom accommodations (or other considerations) for this course are encouraged to speak to me as soon as possible and to contact the Dean's Office at x4262 to ensure that accommodations are provided in a timely manner.
- **Tutors** Chemistry Majors are available to give individual tutorial help to CHEM 366 students. If you feel like you need extra help, consult me early in the semester and a tutor will be assigned to you.
- **Grading** Your written work will receive numerical grades (points). There is no set quota for any particular letter grade, and for the final grade. I usually use a grading curve. The various components of the course are weighted approximately as follows for your final grade:

Laboratory	25%
Problem Sets	15%
Exams (2)	30%
Participation (Class/Lab)	05%
Final Exam	25%

A student will not be admitted to the final examination and will receive a grade of E-deficiency for the course if at the end of the class meetings (1) he or she does not have a passing grade in the course or (2) he or she has not completed laboratory work and turned in all lab reports.