

Chemistry Survival Guide

How to Study and Ace Any Chemistry Course

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Dedication

My students are my teachers. I have learned and been inspired so much from them. For that, I dedicate this Guide to them.

FOREWORD – THE WINNING EDGE IN CHEMISTRY

Chemistry is the central science; its mastery enables an easy path to physics, biology, geology and other related subjects. To understand chemistry is to understand its principles and then apply them to unfamiliar context. It does not require extensive memorization like biology yet it can't derive everything from a few fundamental laws like physics. Chemistry really lies in between owing to its multi-disciplinary nature.

In chemistry, you are required to memorize a bit, and understand a few basic principles. Many find it is particularly hard because of the hybrid nature of learning. Learning chemistry is about mastering problem solving skills by understanding the concepts and becoming familiar with the rules. Chemistry is a "why" science; its concepts and principles explain many of the "why" questions in daily life.

Don't be intimidated. In reality, you don't need to spend more time studying chemistry than other subject if you use a smart study system to understand all the important concepts, principles and reactions. The key to effective learning in chemistry is to memorize the least and apply this knowledge to the fullest.

Many of you apply the same study methods from non-science subjects to science classes, and have difficulty in these classes. Even within the science disciplines, you might get yourself in trouble by studying the same way in chemistry as in biology. At one end of science, biology and geology are information intensive subjects. You can read through the text and memorize the content, and you will do fine. At the other end, physics and calculus are fundamental sciences. If you master a few basic concepts and principles, and learn to derive from these fundamentals, you will survive.

If you are looking for an effective, high-yield way to study chemistry, this Guide is for you. Forget about plowing through many weighty textbooks and overwhelming yourself with unnecessary information. Our goal here is to spend minimum effort to achieve maximum results. Bring your chemistry learning into focus – you'll learn what you need to learn.

As most of you have experienced, at first chemistry seems difficult, yet it is very learnable if you know how. The very issue of how to study chemistry is the focus of this Guide. The survival skills you learn will accelerate your mastery of chemistry and improve your grade quickly. Ignoring them will guarantee that you stay stuck in a rut of inefficiency, which might lead to failure. If you follow the 5-stage systematic method outlined in this Guide, you will significantly improve your learning and achieve a better grade with less study time.

Let's crack on. Get the winning edge today.

"Perhaps the most valuable result of education is the ability to make yourself do the thing you have to do, when it ought to be done, whether you want to or not. It is the first lesson that must be learned."

--Thomas Huxley

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