Welcome

Welcome to CHEM 188! I’m excited to have you in this course and look forward to working together to help you achieve success. I know for me this semester brings feelings of excitement but also nervousness about how everything will go. I can’t guarantee any particular outcome. I will guarantee that I will be flexible, listen to you, and clearly communicate with you as the semester goes along. I ask you to do the same and know that together we will make this semester a good experience no matter the uncertainty that comes our way.

Contact Information

email: daniel.albert@millersville.edu
phone: 717-871-7391
office: Caputo Hall 214
The best way to reach me is via university email.

Office Hours

Office Hours are a great opportunity to get individualized support from me. All Office Hours will be held in Caputo 214 and are open to all students in the course. If you need to meet at a different time or have a private matter to discuss, please contact me and I would be happy to set-up an individual meeting with you. The scheduled times for Office Hours are as follows:

- Monday Afternoons from 12 - 1 pm
- Wednesday Afternoons from 2 - 3:30 pm
- Thursday Mornings from 9:30 - 11 am
- Friday Afternoons from 1 - 2 pm

If you cannot make it to office hours please feel free to set-up an alternative time to meet by corresponding with me via email.
Course Description

An orientation to the opportunities and services available to chemistry students in the university and professional environments. Students will develop a better understanding of the major and career options and will be introduced to the chemistry department faculty and programs.

Course Purpose

We want to help you become an engaged member of the chemistry department and start down a path of a successful academic career. This will be achieved by building a community that supports each other and helps connect to opportunities available across campus.

Course Learning Objectives

- Explore the relevance of chemistry in everyday society and explain how it connects with your career goals.
- Build information literacy skills by using available resources to learn more about a chemistry topic.
- Examine study habits and class performance via self-reflection and meta-cognition.
- Explore personal career goals, identify skills necessary to achieve those goals, and articulate what opportunities can be used to develop those skills.
- Utilize university resources to develop an academic and extracurricular plan that supports your goals.
- Explore supportive communities at Millersville and reflect on your experiences.

Meeting Times

Fridays from 12:00 - 12:50 pm in 153 Roddy Hall

Required Materials

- Regular access to D2L ([https://millersville.desire2learn.com/](https://millersville.desire2learn.com/)) and university email.
Class Environment

I value a learning environment that is engaging, respectful, and helpful. I ask that you help maintain a learning environment that meets these goals for everyone in the class. Anyone whose behavior is disruptive of the learning environment for others in the class will be asked to leave.

My goal is for you to feel comfortable, appreciated, fairly treated, and encouraged to challenge yourself and obtain success. Please come talk to me if there is anything I can do to help support you in achieving success.

Title IX

Millersville University and its faculty are committed to assuring a safe and productive educational environment for all students. In order to meet this commitment, comply with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. §1681, et seq., and act in accordance with guidance from the Office for Civil Rights, the University requires faculty members to report to the University’s Title IX Coordinator incidents of sexual violence shared by students. The only exceptions to the faculty member’s reporting obligation are when incidents of sexual violence are communicated by a student during a classroom discussion, in a writing assignment for a class, or as part of a University-approved research project. Faculty members are obligated to report to the person designated in the University Protection of Minors policy incidents of sexual violence or any other abuse of a student who was, or is, a child (a person under 18 years of age) when the abuse allegedly occurred.

Information regarding the reporting of sexual violence, and the resources that are available to victims of sexual violence, is available at [http://www.millersville.edu/socialeq/title-ix-sexual-misconduct/index.php](http://www.millersville.edu/socialeq/title-ix-sexual-misconduct/index.php)

Grading

All grades in this course are assigned by the instructor of record. This course will use specifications grading, which means that you won’t receive a letter grade for any of the assignments. There are only two possible grades for an assignment (satisfactory or needs improvement). If your assignment ”needs improvement” then you will be given additional opportunities to resubmit the work. There are two types of assignments: Required and Extra. You must satisfactorily complete all of the Required assignments in order to pass the class with a grade of ”D.” You improve your letter grade for the course by one letter grade for each of the Extra assignments you satisfactorily complete. For example, if you complete all of the Required Assignments and 2 Extra Assignments your grade in the course is a ”B”
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required Assignments Completed</th>
<th>Extra Assignments Completed</th>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Not All</td>
<td>Any</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All</td>
<td>Zero</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All</td>
<td>One</td>
<td>C</td>
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<tr>
<td>All</td>
<td>Two</td>
<td>B</td>
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<tr>
<td>All</td>
<td>Three</td>
<td>A</td>
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Plus and Minus grades will be determined via class participation. Engaged participation earns a plus grade, some participation earns the letter grade, and minimal participation earns a minus grade.

**Required Assignments**

**Chemistry in Society**

To complete this assignment you must locate two articles that are related to chemistry in a way that is interesting to you in the current news. After locating the article you need to post a link to the article and a short (about 3 sentence summary) that details the main finding of the article, why it is important to you, and how it relates to other chemistry you know or want to learn more about.

**Information Literacy and Exploring Resources**

To complete this assignment, for one of the "Chemistry in the News" articles you choose we will explore the article/topic in more depth by building a web of knowledge that is related to that article/topic, use university library resources to explore the topic, analyzes different resources, and reflect on how you can gain more knowledge and analyze sources using information literacy.

**Building Meta-cognitive Skills**

To complete this assignment you will reflect on your studying routines and class performance after some early exams. This involves a short surveys and one-paragraph reflections.

**Communicating Career Goals and Identifying Necessary Skills**

To complete this assignment you will need to identifying a career goal, what skills are needed to achieve that goal, and places where you can acquire those skills. The end result of this assignment is a one-page reflection on these ideas.
Developing an Academic and Extracurricular Plan to Support Goals

To complete this assignment you need to develop a four-year course plan that aligns with your career goals and also identify out-of-class experiences (research, internships, organizations, etc.) that you plan on engaging with to help you achieve your goals.

Exploring Supportive Communities

To complete this assignment you need to attend three out-of-class activities on campus and write a short (two-sentence summary) about what the activity was and what your takeaway message was from attending the activity.

Extra Assignments

Attend CHEM 188 Class

Attendance is expected at all CHEM 188 classes. If you need to occasionally miss class because of illness or for other reasons that is acceptable and you can still earn this achievement by communicating with Dr. Albert (e-mail) when you need to miss class.

Attend STEM Talks

You can complete this assignment by attending three different STEM talks on campus. You must submit a two-sentence summary that details what talk you attended and one thing you took away form the talk.

Form and Utilize a Study Group

You can complete this assignment by forming a study group for one of your STEM classes and meeting with that study group five times during the semester. You must submit a brief summary that says who is in your study group, what class you studied for, how much time you met for, and what topics you worked on.

Write a letter of advice to a new student

You can complete this assignment by writing a one-page letter of advice that you would give to a new student who is starting at Millersville next year.

Attend Office Hours of Professors

You can complete this assignment by attending office hours of your professors four different times. You must submit what professor you met with, how long you were at office hours, and what you discussed.
Write Letter to yourself to open at graduation

You can complete this assignment by writing a one-page letter to yourself to open at graduation. The letter should detail what your expectations are for the person at graduation.

Build a future resume

You can complete this assignment by building a resume that has all of your accomplishments thus far and also details the accomplishments you want to have when you graduate.

Any Other Ideas Developed by the Class

What else would you like to work on this semester to help set your self up for a good career at Millersville? I’m open to other ideas you all have and would be happy to include them after discussing with the class. What do you want to get out of this class?

Attendance, Absences, and Make-Ups

Attendance and participation in class is expected. Please communicate with me if you need to miss class. We will work together to help you continue to make progress in the class. Here are some examples of reasons why you may need to miss class or we may need to reschedule coursework.

- Required religious observation
- Participation in a Millersville University athletic event
- Armed forces related training or drills
- Medical Illness/Emergency
- Death in the family
- Special circumstances: Other special circumstances may arise. Communicate and we will work together.

Assistance

If you tell me that you are having trouble I will not judge you or think less of you. I am always here to listen and if I can not help you, I will find someone who can.
Counseling

People sometimes face challenges in their careers that interfere with their performance and goals. University Resources are available to help support you. The Counseling Center (717-871-7821) is an important resource for both mental health and substance abuse issues. Additional resources include: Health Services (717-871-5250), Center for Health Education and Promotion (717-871-4141), Campus Ministries, and Learning Services (717-871-5554).

Academic Honesty

The Millersville University Academic Honesty Policy states that:

Students of the University are expected to be honest and forthright in their academic endeavors. To falsify the results of one’s research, to steal the words or ideas of another, to cheat on an examination, to allow another person to commit, or assist another in committing an act of academic dishonesty, corrupts the essential process by which knowledge is advanced.

The entire academic honesty policy can be found at [http://www.millersville.edu/english/for-faculty/academic-integrity/index.php](http://www.millersville.edu/english/for-faculty/academic-integrity/index.php)

All work that is turned in for a grade should be completed individually by the person whose name appears on the work. Students found to have violated the academic honesty policy will receive a score of zero on the assignment.

Suggestions for Course Success

This course is designed to help support you and orient you for opportunities available at Millersville and as part of the Chemistry Department. Expressing questions you have, difficulties you are experiencing, and sharing your experiences with others will help make this course the most beneficial for everyone. Let's build a community that is supportive in setting each other up for success. Staying actively involved throughout the semester is key to being successful here.

Important Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8/30</td>
<td>Last Day to Add or Drop a Course Online</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/6</td>
<td>No Classes for Labor Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/11 and 10/12</td>
<td>No Classes for Fall Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/29</td>
<td>Last Day to Withdraw from Course and Receive a ‘W’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/24 - 11/28</td>
<td>No Classes for Thanksgiving Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/9</td>
<td>CHEM 188 Final Exam from 12:30 - 2:30 pm</td>
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## Course Schedule

The instructor reserves the right to change this schedule as needed. Any changes will be communicated via an in-class announcement.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Guests</th>
<th>Assignments Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8/27</td>
<td>Course Introduction</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>9/3</td>
<td>Studying and Exploring Campus Organizations</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>9/10</td>
<td>Studying and Chemistry Career Opportunities</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>9/17</td>
<td>Different Chemistry Options</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>9/24</td>
<td>I blew an exam. Now What?</td>
<td>Dr. Elioff</td>
<td>Career Goals and Skills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/1</td>
<td>Course Requirements and Searching for Courses</td>
<td>Dr. Rajaseelan</td>
<td>Exam Reflection for Metacognitive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/8</td>
<td>Four-Year Planning</td>
<td>Dr. Miller</td>
<td>Chemistry in the News</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/15</td>
<td>Information Literacy</td>
<td>Prof. Gold and Dr. Mullen Davis</td>
<td>Academic and Extracurricular Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/22</td>
<td>Library Resources</td>
<td>Prof. Gold and Dr. Rickard</td>
<td>Information Web</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/29</td>
<td>Registering for Courses</td>
<td>Dr. Mbindyo</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/5</td>
<td>Building a Resume</td>
<td>Dr. Bonser</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/12</td>
<td>Chemistry Opportunities Outside the Classroom</td>
<td>Dr. Schiza</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/19</td>
<td>Chemistry in Society</td>
<td>Dr. Allen</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/26</td>
<td>No Class- Thanksgiving Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/3</td>
<td>Revisiting Meta-cognition</td>
<td>Dr. Kennedy</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>12/9</td>
<td>Open for Questions</td>
<td></td>
<td>All Assignments Due by Final (2:30 pm)</td>
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</tbody>
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