

# Accelerated Chemistry Syllabus

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## Course Overview

Accelerated Chemistry is a challenging course that will teach students to combine their knowledge of math, science, reading, and writing to improve critical thinking skills. This course emphasizes scientific thought and the process of problem solving. The knowledge gained will directly prepare them for either AP Chemistry or freshmen chemistry in college.

## Units of Study

### Instructor

Mr. Harris

1<sup>st</sup> Quarter: Introduction to Chemistry, Atomic Structure, Electrons in Atoms, Periodic Table  
2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter: Scientific Measurement, Matter and Change, Ionic-Covalent-Metallic Bonding  
3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter: Chemical Quantities, Chemical Reactions, Stoichiometry, States of Matter  
4<sup>th</sup> Quarter: Gas Laws, Solutions, Thermochemistry, Acids & Bases

### Phone

928-214-8776  
ext. 109

### Text

Addison - Wesley ; Chemistry \*\*Textbooks are available to checkout, but are not used daily

### Email

Tharris@northlan  
dprep.org

## Course Materials

You will need these materials throughout the school year

- Pencils, erasers, highlighters, etc...
- 1 – composition notebook
- 1 - 3 ring binder (1” or larger) - Dividers are useful
- Scientific calculator
- 1 Box of tissue
- 1 Ream of lined paper, college ruled

### Office Location

Rm # 109

### Office Hours

7th period prep  
2:24pm – 3:10pm

## Grading Scales

The grading scale for this class is a *weighted* grading scale; meaning: some assignments are worth more towards your total grade than others e.g. Tests and labs.

Your semester homework, quizzes, labs, and tests will account for 90% of your semester grade, and the semester final exam is worth 10% of your semester grade.

Appointments  
can be made for  
lunch, and/or  
before/after  
school

- 90-100 % A, 80-89% B, 70-79% C, 60-69% D, 59 and below F
- Homework – 20%
- Quizzes – 15%
- Labs – 30%
- Tests – 35%

## Classroom Procedures

**Bell Work:** I have two forms of bellwork. 1) Practice problems - this form of bellwork is written on the board. You will begin the bellwork as soon as the tardy bell rings. 2) 5 minute quiz - Quizzes will begin when the tardy bell rings, and end 5 minutes after \*BE ON TIME\*. If you are absent, you must make up the quiz the day you return. Unexcused absences will result in a zero. This is my tardy policy—if you are continually late, your grade will reflect it.

**Homework Assignments:** You will receive a chapter study guide to begin each new unit. These study guides will be worth 40-60 points and will be a cumulative review of the unit. This is your daily homework! I encourage you to complete problems daily as we proceed with the content in class. These will be graded for completion and accuracy.

**Grading Assignments:** Study guides will have “homework check” dates. A specified amount of the study guide will be due on the homework check date. This is a formative assessment of your progress and understanding.

**Late Homework:** Late homework will be turned into the "Absent & Late Work" shelf. If the late work is not complete, it WILL NOT be accepted. Assignments turned in late are automatically 50% off. Missing assignments will show up as a zero in the gradebook until completed. Homework is accepted until the quarter ends.

**Absent Days:** If you are absent on the day homework is assigned, you will be allowed an extra day to turn your homework in when you get back. (You are gone Monday and return Tuesday—you will have until Thursday to turn Monday’s homework in) If you are present the day homework is assigned, it is due on the regular due date or the day you return. YOU MUST WRITE "ABSENT +DATE" YOU ARE GONE ON THE TOP OF THE ASSIGNMENT OR IT WILL BE COUNTED LATE.

**Cell Phones:** Cell phones will be placed in the cubby assigned to your seat as you walk into class each day. If your cell phone is needed, I will let you know.

**Online Classroom:** We will use Google Classroom as an online source where you can check to see what homework is due, print off missing assignments, and occasionally take quizzes. There is an app you can download, which makes receiving updates easier. \*Your first assignment is to join my Google Classroom\*

**Discipline:** I will treat you as I would like to be treated, with respect.

- 1) Verbal warning
- 2) Verbal warning + Document behavior + Meeting with Mr. Harris after class
- 3) Document behavior + Contact parents + Inform Ms. Keberlein
- 4) Contact parents for formal meeting + Create individual behavior plan

**Chem Cash:** Chem Cash is my pride and joy, DO NOT COPY CHEM CASH! If you are caught copying chem cash, *ALL* privileges will be taken away for the remainder of the school year. You will be paid 2 Chem Cash per week IF you show me that you have zero missing assignments in FamilyLink.

Chem cash may be used for the following:

1. Leave the classroom (restroom, drink, sharpen pencil, locker, office, etc...)
2. Borrow Mr. Harris’s supplies (calculator, periodic table, etc...)
3. Turn in 4 late homework assignment or lab per quarter

### **Lab Safety:**

This class has an assigned lab. The chemistry lab is an environment that sparks imagination, allows you to make hands on discoveries, and conduct cool experiments! BUT... Lab safety is the most important aspect of this class. I have a no tolerance policy in lab. If you are caught breaking any lab rules, you will be taken out of the lab setting, indefinitely, pending further judgement.

- 1) No Horseplay in the lab
- 2) No unauthorized experiments will be conducted in the lab
- 3) ALL accidents, spills, breaks, or missteps will be reported to Mr. Harris IMMEDIATELY.
- 4) Proper clothing and eye protection will be worn during all labs!

### **In Case Of Emergency Procedures:**

#### **Lockdown Procedure for Students**

- 1) **BE SILENT** immediately when the lockdown is announced
- 2) **Move to the back of the classroom behind the lab tables**
- 3) **Sit QUIETLY and STILL** until told otherwise

#### **Lock Out Procedure for Students**

- 1) **Lockout is an alert that means the class is NOT in immediate danger, therefore we will proceed with class instruction**
- 2) **You are NOT permitted to leave the classroom during a lockout alert**

#### **Fire Drill Procedure for Students**

- 1) **We will line up in a single file line at the door**
- 2) **To evacuate ...**
- 3) **Exit the classroom to the *right***
- 4) **Go to the end of the hall and exit the building through the “emergency exit” door**
- 5) **Turn *right* outside and continue to the staff parking lot area near Sparrow Avenue**

## Student Contracts

I \_\_\_\_\_ understand that I will be treated as an adult in Mr. Harris's classroom until proven that I can no longer hold this responsibility. I will uphold a *mutual respect* with Mr. Harris and my classmates. All issues I have with Mr. Harris or a classmate will be brought directly to Mr. Harris's attention in a professional, courteous setting and manor.

Lab safety is the number one priority when conducting experiments in Mr. Harris's classroom. I will hold myself accountable by following all Flinn Scientific lab safety procedures, as well as alerting my classmates and Mr. Harris when they are in violation of these rules. I will use the lab as a learning environment to better understand chemistry concepts.

Student Print	Sign	Date
X _____	X _____	_____

Parent or Guardian Print	Sign	Date
X _____	X _____	_____

**Due Friday, August 16!!!**

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Hello! Welcome to Mr. TJ Harris's Accelerated Chemistry course at Northland Preparatory Academy for the 2018-2019 school year. The main points are: 1) my contact information, 2) my expectations for the school year, and 3) my online classroom.

I am very excited for this upcoming school year, as it is my 4th year as a teacher. I graduated from the University of Great Falls, Montana in 2016 with a B.A in Secondary Education and Broad Field Science in Secondary Education, and I am currently pursuing my masters in Education Leadership-Principalship at Northern Arizona University. I would like to be very accessible throughout the school year to hear any concerns or updates regarding your child. You can reach me by email at [tharris@northlandprep.org](mailto:tharris@northlandprep.org) (most effective) or phone 928-214-8776 ext. 109

I have learned through my teaching experiences that mutual respect is the foundation of any successful learning environment. Therefore, I have sent home a contract for your son/daughter to sign regarding mutual respect along with other classroom requirements. I encourage you to also read this contract, as it explains my expectations for your child in my classroom, which includes: homework and tardy policies, as well as a safety contract.

I will be using Google Classroom as an online resource this year. A goal of mine is to keep you updated with all of the information you will need to assist in your child's success. I will update the classroom with daily homework assignments and due dates. Please explore the site with your child. The main component of the classroom is to allow your child to see what homework is due and be able to print off missing homework.

Sincerely,

Todd Harris Jr. (TJ)  
Chemistry Teacher, Northland Preparatory Academy  
Head Boys & Girls Basketball Coach