暨南大學
JINAN UNIVERSITY

0703C100
General Chemistry I

Instructor: TBA

Time: December 14, 2026 - January 15, 2027

Office Hours: By Appointment

Contact Hours: 45 (50 minutes each)

Credits: 3

E-mail: TBA

Course Description

General Chemistry I is designed as an introduction to the most fundamental laws, theories, and principles of general chemistry. It is appropriate for students that have not had an advanced chemistry course in high school, and for those majoring in the environmental, earth, and social sciences, as well as disciplines such as architecture, business, and the humanities. The goal of this course is to provide students with a firm foundation on the basic concepts and principles of chemistry, by working through example cases and practice problems.

Course Goals

- Apply the scientific method to investigate chemistry problems.
- Understanding aspects of matter and energy.
- Learning about various chemical reactions and stoichiometry.
- Understanding aqueous (water-based) chemistry.

- Reviewing the properties of the elements.
- Learning about atoms, subatomic particles.
- Focus on the electron and chemical bonding.
- Learning about Lewis structures in molecular bonding, molecular geometry, and bonding theories.
- Examining thermochemistry and gases.

Required Textbook

Chemistry, The Central Science, 14th edition (2018), by Theodore E. Brown, H. Eugene LeMay, Bruce E. Bursten, Catherine Murphy, Patrick Woodward, and Matthew E. Stoltzfus. Publisher: Pearson, ISBN-13: 978-0134414232.

Course Outline

Please note that the outline is meant to give an overview of the major concepts in this course. Changes may occur as needed to aid in the student`s development.

Module 1: Matter, Energy, and Measurement

- **Topic:** Covering central ideas about matter and energy; about the process of science, as it relates to the origins of chemistry; about units of measurement for mass, length, volume, density, and temperature; about applications of chemical problem-solving to unit conversions; and about uncertainty in measurements and the distinction between accuracy and precision.
- **Chapter 1:** Matter, Energy, and Measurement.
- **Quiz 1**
- **Homework 1**

Module 2: Atoms, molecules, and Ions

- **Topic:** Examining the properties and composition of matter on the microscopic and atomic scales, including: the differences between elements, compounds, and mixtures, and between atoms, ions, isotopes, and molecules; the evolution of the

atomic theory and the nuclear atom model; we explore the atomic arrangement in the periodic table; we introduce chemical bonding in the formation of ionic compounds and covalent substances; we derive names and formulas of inorganic compounds and some simple organic compounds.

- **Chapter 2:** Atoms, molecules, and Ions.
- **Quiz 2**
- **Homework 2**

Module 3: Chemical Reactions and Reaction Stoichiometry

- **Topic:** Covering how the mass of a substance to the number of chemical entities comprising it relates (atoms, ions, molecules, or formula units) and applying this relationship to formulas and equations. We start by defining the mole, and using it to convert between mass and number of entities, and to derive a chemical formula from mass analysis. We explore how formulas relate to molecular structures, and learn how to write and balance chemical equations. We calculate the empirical formula from analyses, amounts of reactants and products in a reaction, and determine limiting reactants and reaction yields.
- **Chapter 3:** Chemical Reactions and Reaction Stoichiometry.
- **Quiz 3**
- **Homework 3**

Module 4: Reactions in Aqueous Solutions

- **Topic:** Examining the underlying nature of three classes of reactions, and the complex part that water plays in aqueous chemistry. We start by exploring the molecular structure of water and its role as a solvent, then discuss molarity as a way to express the concentration of an ionic or covalent compound in a solution. We write equations for aqueous ionic reactions, describe precipitation reactions and their stoichiometry, explore acid-base reactions as proton-transfer processes, examine oxidation-reduction reactions in the formation of ionic and covalent substances. We calculate the concentration of solutions using molarity as the unit.

- **Chapter 4:** Reactions in Aqueous Solutions.
- **Quiz 4**
- **Homework 4**

Module 5: Thermochemistry

- **Topic:** Investigation on how heat, or thermal energy, flows when matter changes, how to measure the quantity of heat for a given change, and how to determine the direction and magnitude of heat flow for any reaction. We begin by exploring energy transformation and flow between systems, then we discuss the units of energy and identify the heat of a reaction as a change in enthalpy. We describe how a calorimeter measures heat and how the quantity of heat in a reaction is proportional to the amounts of substances. We define standard conditions in order to compare enthalpies of reactions and see how to obtain the change in enthalpy for any reaction, and discuss some current and future energy sources.
- **Chapter 5:** Thermochemistry.
- **Quiz 5**
- **Homework 5**
- **Mid-Term Exam**

Module 6: Electronic Structure of Atoms

- **Topic:** Exploring recurring patterns of electron distributions in atoms to see how they account for the recurring behavior of the elements. We begin by describing a new quantum number and a restriction on the number of electrons in an orbital. We then explore electrostatic effects that lead to splitting of atomic energy levels into sublevels, and recognize how this filling order correlates with the order of elements in the periodic table.
- **Chapter 6:** Electronic Structure of Atoms.
- **Quiz 6**
- **Homework 6**

Module 7: Periodic Properties of the Elements

- **Topic:** Examination of the development of the Periodic Table of Elements in order to understand the reasons for periodic trends with regard of atomic size, ionization energy, electronegativity. We then explore some common patters of reactivity across the periodic table. We utilize the periodic table and our knowledge of electron configurations to better understand the chemistry of alkali metals and alkaline earth metals.
- **Chapter 7:** Periodic Properties of the Elements.
- **Quiz 7**
- **Homework 7**

Module 8: Basic Concepts of Chemical Bonding

- **Topic:** Examination of how atomic properties give rise to two models of chemical bonding (ionic and covalent) and how each model explains the behavior of substances. We see how metals and nonmetals combine via these types of bonding and learn how to depict atoms and ions with Lewis symbols. We look at how a bond forms and discuss the relations among bond order, energy, and length. We explore the relationship between bond energy and the enthalpy change of a reaction. We examine periodic trends in electronegativity and learn its role in the range of bonding.
- **Chapter 8:** Basic Concepts of Chemical Bonding.
- **Quiz 8**
- **Homework 8**

Module 9: Molecular Geometry and Bonding Theories

- **Topic:** Covering the three-dimensional shapes of molecules as described by the valence-shell electron-pair repulsion (VSEPR) model. We then examine how multiple bonds and lone pairs affect the molecular geometry. We discuss the common types of hybridization and explore the connection between the type of

hybridization and molecular geometries predicted by the VSEPR model.

- **Chapter 9:** Molecular Geometry and Bonding Theories.
- **Quiz 9**
- **Homework 9**

Module 10: Gases

- **Topic:** Exploring the physical behavior of gases and the theory that explains this behavior. We begin by comparing the behavior of solids, liquids, and gases, the discuss methods for measuring gas pressure. We consider laws that describe the behavior of a gas and its volume changes, and rearrange the ideal gas law to determine the density and molar mass of an unknown gas, the partial pressure of a gas in a mixture, and the amounts of reactants and products in a chemical change. We relate gas laws to the kinetic-molecular theory, and apply key ideas about gas behavior to Earth's atmosphere.
- **Chapter 10:** Gases.
- **Quiz 10**
- **Homework 10**
- **Final Cumulative Exam**

Grading Policy

Your final grade is based on the following components:

Type	Percentage
Quizzes	25% of grade
Homework	20% of grade
Midterm Exam	25% of grade
Final Exam	30% of grade

Grading Scale

The instructor will use the grading system as applied by JNU:

Definition	Letter Grade	Score
Excellent	A	90~100
Good	B	80~89
Satisfactory	C	70~79
Poor	D	60~69
Failed	E	Below 60

Academic Integrity

As members of the Jinan University academic community, students are expected to be honest in all of their academic coursework and activities. Academic dishonesty, includes (but is not limited to) cheating on assignments or examinations; plagiarizing, i.e., misrepresenting as one's own work any work done by another; submitting the same paper, or a substantially similar paper, to meet the requirements of more than one course without the approval and consent of the instructors concerned; or sabotaging other students' work within these general definitions. Instructors; however, determine what constitutes academic misconduct in the courses they teach. Students found guilty of academic misconduct in any portion of the academic work face penalties that range from the lowering of their course grade to awarding a grade of E for the entire course.