

# Syllabus

## Chemistry 11B, General Chemistry, Summer 2017

**Instructor:** Dr. Michael Vela

**Email:** [mvela@brandeis.edu](mailto:mvela@brandeis.edu)

**Telephone:** x62582

**Office:** Edison Lecks 120

**Office hours:** M & Th 11-12

**Lectures:** Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday  
8:30-10:50 AM

### Course description:

Chemistry 11B picks up where Chemistry 11A left off, advancing students' understanding of bonding models and molecular structure. Three major quantitative topics are covered in the second half of General Chemistry—chemical equilibrium (including acid-base chemistry, solubility), chemical kinetics, and thermodynamics. Electrochemistry and oxidation-reduction reactions are also covered in 11B. When taken in conjunction with Chemistry 11A and the associated lab courses (Chemistry 18A and 18B), this course meets the general, analytic, and inorganic requirements of medical, dental, and veterinary schools.

*Prerequisite: A satisfactory grade (C- or better) in Chemistry 11A or an approved equivalent.*

### Textbook:

Tro, Nivaldo J. *Chemistry, A Molecular Approach*. Pearson Prentice Hall., 3<sup>rd</sup> ed., 2013.

To make the most of each lecture, it is essential that you keep up with the readings and work through the sample problems in the text as you go along.

### LATTE:

LATTE is our on-line course website. I will use it to post problem sets, solutions to problems, quizzes, and exams, and slides to help you review the material covered in lecture. You will also be able to use this site to view your quiz and exam grades. To access LATTE, go to <http://latte.brandeis.edu> and log-in using your UNET ID and password.

### Attendance:

Attendance at all lectures **is expected**.

### Problem Sets:

Problems are assigned to go along with the readings for each chapter of the book (see Assignments and Class/Exam Schedule on LATTE). Problem sets will not be graded, but have been selected to help you learn the material effectively.

**Quizzes:** July 15, 22, 29, August 5

**Exams:** July 26, August 9, 11 (Final)

**Calculators:**

You must have a calculator for exams and quizzes. Cell phone calculators will not be permitted under *any* circumstances.

**Make-ups:**

There are no make-ups for quizzes or exams. With a **documented medical excuse**, your final grade will be based on the average of the quizzes and exams taken. If you arrive late you will have only the remaining portion of the allotted time to finish the quiz or exam.

**Students entitled to accommodations:**

If you are entitled to extra time or other accommodations, please provide official documentation **at the beginning of the session**. **No accommodations can be made retroactively.**

**Grading:**

Grades will be weighted as follows:

In-class participation and problem-solving	10%
4 Quizzes	20%
2 exams	35%
Final exam	35%

The average grade in Chem. 11A is generally around *B-*. Letter-grade equivalences to numerical scores are usually determined based on the class average and the distribution of scores.

Performing well in the course is not a competition with your fellow students. The following table provides guaranteed letter-grade equivalences for any student whose performance falls within a specified range.

<b>Percentage of Total (after weighted average is taken)</b>	<b>Grade range</b>
85-100 %	A <sup>-</sup> –A <sup>+</sup>
70-84 %	B <sup>-</sup> –B <sup>+</sup>
60-69 %	C <sup>-</sup> –C <sup>+</sup>
50-59 %	D <sup>-</sup> –D <sup>+</sup>
< 50 %	F

Any “curve” can only help, it cannot hurt, your grade. For example, if the average final score is 62%, that score will be set as the *B-* and all other grades will be adjusted around that average. On the other hand, if the class average is 82%, that does *not* mean that 82% is now equivalent to a *B-*. Rather, it means that the average grade earned in the class would be *B+*.

**Academic honesty:**

Academic integrity is central to the mission of educational excellence at Brandeis University. Violations of University policies on academic integrity, described in Section Three of *Rights and Responsibilities*, will not be tolerated and may result in a failing grade in the course or on the quiz or exam in question. A repeat offense may result in suspension or dismissal from the University.

