Chemistry is the study of the structure and properties of matter and how it changes. Believe it or not, chemistry is everywhere. Working together, we’ll explore six different ways chemistry impacts your daily life.

### Areas of Study

**Unit 1: Alchemy**
What is the stuff of the universe?

**Unit 2: Compounds**
How does the stuff make up the universe?

**Unit 3: Reactions**
How do we make stuff from other stuff?

**Unit 4: Water**
How do chemical reactions affect our water supply?

**Unit 5: Energy**
How is the way we live affected by different forms of energy?

**Unit 6: Products We Love**
What is the role of chemistry in personal care products?

### Grading Details

Final letter grades determined by Columbia Public Schools scale.

**Grading Categories**
- Assessment Mastery (60%)
- Projects (15%)
- Productivity (10%)
- Final Exam (15%)

**Standards Based Grading Scale**
- Advanced
- Expected+
- Expected
- Foundational+
- Foundational
- Developing+
- Developing
- Beginning
- No Attempt
Digital Citizenship & Responsibility
Your laptop should be charged and ready for class every day. Make sure that you bring your charger, just in case. You will be expected to use your laptop everyday for learning. Misuse of a school or personal device will result in consequences.

Independent Work Time
Each unit is a work in progress until the unit exam. So, the work time in class is provided as an opportunity to improve your learning, not to socialize. This means you should work on chemistry, by yourself or with others. This is a privilege that can be lost.

Absences
While most learning activities are in Schoology and can be completed at almost any time, the daily collaborative learning cannot be made up. If you are absent, it is your job to make sure that you catch up with the unit timeline. Spartan Time is a great opportunity to get caught up after an absence.

Homework
Your homework for this class will vary every day based on your progress through the unit. This might include watching videos and taking notes, working on practice problems, or reviewing previous work. The amount of homework depends on your use of class time and your grade goals for the unit.

Academic Dishonesty
Don't cheat. Working with other students is different than copying. You are welcome to work with others, but you must do your own work. If you are found cheating on a test, you will get a disciplinary referral and will take an alternate assessment.

Mastery Learning and Student Choice

What does this mean?
Mastery learning means that your grade depends on how much you learn opposed to how much you complete. Student choice means that you will have some options for how you learn the material.

What will class look like?
We’ll do things together when necessary and you can work in small groups or alone on some things. Each class period will have time for both. You’ll track your mastery of the learning targets during the unit. On a set day, the whole class will take a quiz over a learning target. At the end of each unit, everyone will take a test on the same day.

What will you do?
During group activity time, you will participate in whatever the class is doing that day. During independent work time, you will choose from a list of possible learning activities to improve your mastery of the current learning target. To be successful, you’ll have to work outside of class. Your persistence, especially when class gets hard, will do a lot to determine your grade.

Help!?!?
Be proactive and take initiative when you’re stuck. As your teacher, it’s our job to help you...so please ask us! When you need additional help outside of class, please schedule a time with your teacher to meet. This could include Spartan Time, Study Hall or before and after school. We'll find a way to make it work but you need to ask!