

ADVANCED INTEGRATED SCIENCE 352 FALL 2012

INSTRUCTOR: Pam Henderson

OFFICE: Main Campus - none CHEC - none

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OFFICE HOURS: Because I am on multiple campuses appointments need to be made.

TEXTBOOK: IS 352 packet of activities available at bookstores.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: Science topics & themes are chosen to emphasize broad concepts highlighted in the Texas & National Science Standards. Topics include fundamental physical & chemical processes & the nature of scientific inquiry. The course will be taught using an inquiry based method, modeling, & instructional techniques proven effective by current educational research.

GOALS:

1. To enable you to effectively & comfortably teach science to your students using hands on activities that will reinforce lecture material & the Science TEKS.
2. To give you a knowledge base that will enable you to pass the Science portion of the TExES test.

CLASS CONDUCT & CLASS RULES:

1. All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency & acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See Student's Guide Handbook, Policies & Procedures, Conduct). Rude / disruptive behavior will **NOT** be tolerated.
2. If you haven't yet done so, you need to begin thinking of yourselves as professionals rather than students & conduct yourselves accordingly.
3. Class attendance: You are responsible for attending class & being on time. Role will be checked at the beginning of each class. Anyone not present at that time will be counted absent. Students who come in late should remind me **after** class in order to be marked tardy instead of absent. 3 tardies will count as 1 absence. In a class that meets twice a week, your attendance grade will be reduced 2 points for each absence in excess of 1 absence. For a once a week class, your attendance grade will be reduced 3 points for each class missed in excess of 1 & 3 tardies will count as 1 absence. Students who have unexcused absences for 3 consecutive class periods or who have unexcused absences 50% of the time will automatically be dropped from the class with a failing grade. Also absences due to trips & vacations will not be considered

excused for any reason. Your group members rely on your presence. Please be there for them. If one of your members misses, please take notes, get handouts, etc. for them. If you miss a class it is your responsibility to get the notes & homework assignments from one of your group members.

4. Homework: All homework is due at the beginning of class. If you have been absent your homework is still due the day you return to class or else points will be deducted. Late homework will not be accepted more than 1 week upon returning to class.
5. Participation: A large part of this class will be spent doing hands on activities. If you just sit & let the same person or persons do the work & you don't get involved then 3 things will happen: 1st – you will lose participation points, 2nd – you won't understand the activity or have the experience doing it in order to be a good science teacher & 3rd – this class will be long, dull, & boring. Doing work for another class will also result in the loss of 3 participation points for each offense.
6. Cell phones & other electronic devices will be turned off & put away at all times: If a cell phone rings (vibrating counts as ringing), the person having the phone will have 3 points deducted from their participation grade. I will make exceptions to this rule at my discretion. No tape recorders unless permission is given in advance. Lap tops are permissible.
7. Exams: I will schedule exams 2 weeks in advance. Don't wait until a scheduled date to start studying. This is a science class & in order to do well you will have to study.
8. Talking: When the instructor is talking, students need to pay attention. It's my responsibility to keep anyone from disrupting the learning process. Students talking while instructions are being given will be asked to be quiet the 1st time & then asked to leave the room if they continue to talk & receive a 5 point deduction from their participation grade.
9. Food & drinks: Drinks are acceptable in the classroom but food is not. You may eat before class but all food must be put away by the time I start class.
10. Cheating & plagiarizing will not be tolerated: When a person deliberately uses someone else's language/material without acknowledging its source this is plagiarizing. As an instructor I uphold & support the highest academic standards & I expect the same from my students. Therefore, students caught cheating/plagiarizing will be referred to the Dean of Students for disciplinary actions. Penalties for academic dishonesty include disciplinary probation, suspension, & expulsion (Texas A&M University-Commerce Code of Student Conduct). If you witness cheating please let me know ASAP so I can protect you & the other students in class.

ADA ELIGIBILITY: The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources & Services
Gee Library – Room 132 903-886-5150 or 903-886-5835
StudentDisabilityServices@tamu-commerce.edu

EVALUATION:

3 TESTS	300 points
TEKS NOTEBOOK	100 points
HOMEWORK	50 points
ATTENDANCE/PARTICIPATION	<u>50 points</u>
TOTAL	500 points

A = 500 –450

D = 349 - 300

B = 449 – 400

F = 299 & below

C = 399 - 350

With this grading system it is possible to make a C or above in this class without passing any of the 3 exams. However, in order to show an understanding of the material, a student must pass at least 2 of the exams. Students who fail all 3 exams could fail the class regardless of their average.