

# General Chemistry I-Discussion

## CHEM 1100- Summer 2016

**Instructors:** Dr. Elvin A. Alemán and Dr. Koni Stone

Website: <http://www.csustan.edu/blackboard/>

<http://genchem1csustan.wikidot.com>

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Discussion Time: M&W 8:45am-9:50am

Room: Naraghi Hall of Science 321 (Alemán) or N301 (Stone)

Office Hours\*: MW 10:00AM-11:30AM (Alemán) F: 12-1 (Stone)

*\*Appointments may be requested via email.*

### Overview

This course supports the CHEM 1100 lecture. Active participation in the discussion activities has been shown to increase student success in CHEM 1100.

### Grades

The percentage of the discussion points will be determined as follows:

Category	% of total grade
Worksheets	50%
Attendance	50%

These percentages will be used by the lecture instructor to determine the final grade. The discussion grade contributes 10 % to the overall grade for the CHEM 1100.

### Attendance

Attendance is required in the discussion. 10 points will be given for attendance, participation in activities, worksheets, etc. each day of discussion. No make up for missed attendance will be given. You won't receive full points if you arrive late (after 9) or leave early (before 9:50 am).

### Worksheets

Worksheets with practice problems will be provided during discussion.

### Academic Integrity

Any cheating on attendance sheets or worksheets is a serious offense. The first cheating offense results in a zero score. Any subsequent instance justifies a failing grade in the course. Copying answers and/or using unauthorized notes during worksheet works are regarded as cheating and will not be tolerated. The instructor reserves the right to remove any person suspected of cheating from the discussion room.

### Engrade

Engrade is an online program that will allow you to have access to your grades, check upcoming assignments, take quizzes, and submit homeworks. You will receive an email from the instructor with a link to view your grades and assignments online on Engrade. Sign up (is Free) if you do not have an account with engrade.

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### iPolicy

Please read the following blog from Prof. Cara A. Finnegan (Communication, U of Illinois U-C).

#### **Technology and the Problem of Divided Attention**

*In recent years the saturation of cell phones, text messaging, and laptops, combined with the broad availability of wireless in classrooms, has produced something I call the problem of divided attention. A March 25, 2008 article in the New York Times summarized recent studies of productivity in business settings. Researchers found that after responding to email or text messages, it took people more than 15 minutes to re-focus on the "serious mental tasks" they had been performing before the interruption. Other research has shown that when people attempt to perform two tasks at once (e.g., following what's happening in class while checking text messages), the brain literally cannot do it. The brain has got to give up on one of the tasks in order to effectively accomplish the other. Hidden behind all the hype about multi-tasking, then, is this sad truth: it makes you slower and dumber. For this reason alone you should seek to avoid the problem of divided attention when you are in class. But there's another reason, too: technology often causes us to lose our senses when it comes to norms of polite behavior and, as a result, perfectly lovely people become unbelievably rude.*

*For both these reasons, then, turn off your cellphones or set them on silent mode when you come to class; it is rude for our activities to be interrupted by a ringing cellphone. Similarly, text messaging will not be tolerated in class; any student found to be sending or checking text messages during class will be invited (quite publicly) to make a choice either to cease the texting or leave the classroom. You are welcome to bring your laptop to class and use it to take notes, access readings we're discussing, and the like. You are not welcome to surf the web, check email, or otherwise perform non-class-related activities during class. Here's my best advice: If you aren't using it to perform a task specifically related to what we are doing in class at that very moment, put it away.*

For the same reasons explained above, and it is disrespectful and rude when these techno-activities are performed during class, the following policy will be followed (lecture, discussion and lab):

In the General Chemistry Discussion, you only need your notebook, pencil (or pen), and your book. But most important of all, you need to actively participate in class. You must turn-off and put your cellphone, computer, iPod, iPad, and iWhatever-is-new away. Otherwise, I will ask you to leave the classroom. Avoid the temptation and put them in your backpack.