

Pre-Advanced Placement Chemistry at James Bowie High School

It is very important that you and your student select courses for next year with careful consideration. ~~June 10~~ **May 1** will be the absolute deadline for any student or parent to request changes. This must be done through **written communication** with the data processing office at Bowie. After ~~June 10~~ **May 1**, **requests for level changes (pre-AP to academic) will not be considered until a student has been in a class for two weeks. Such requests will go to committee for review and decision.**

It is important that students learn to face challenges and that they understand the meaning of commitment. Furthermore, students' course selections determine the master schedule, the hiring and reassignment of teachers, and the purchase of classroom materials, so we will strictly adhere to these deadlines.

Pre-AP Chemistry is aligned with the College Board's recommendations and prepares students to be successful in college level courses. Compared to the academic course, the Pre-AP class is faster-paced and covers more content relevant to the AP class. Assessments are rigorous, and students are expected to come to class prepared and have good time-management skills. Some indicators of success are the student's skill level and interest in science, the ability to work independently, and achievement in mathematics.

Due to the high level of applied math in Chemistry, performance in Algebra and Geometry Pre-AP will be far more telling than prior sciences. It is **strongly** recommended that students be concurrently enrolled in Algebra 2 Pre-AP. Students who are weak in math should understand that regular tutorials might be necessary to fully succeed in class. A student who scored a "C" or worse in a prior math course should consider academic chemistry, a less math-intensive course.

Students should expect approximately (30 – 60) minutes of homework every night (estimates are based on grade level skills in reading, writing, and **math**). Additional time may be required for completion of science projects and outside readings. Daily attendance and daily review of class notes are crucial for a good understanding of the curriculum. Missing class for whatever reason will require immediate expenditure of time outside of class for make-up work/lab assignments.

Chemistry summer pre-work is required and will be quizzed over in the first weeks of class. Information can be found at www.BowiePreAPchem.blogspot.com as of ~~June 10~~ **May 1**. This work will include:

1. Picking a science research topic and an alternate topic,
2. Using your research skills to find library resources related to your topic,
3. Having/acquiring a valid Austin Public Library card to be used for further research.
4. Making flashcards for and memorizing a list of important ions (approximately 32)
5. Practicing essential math skills

These assignments will be explained fully on the website and useful links will be supplied for completion of this work.

With their signatures on the James Bowie High School Course Contract, parents and students acknowledge their understanding of the commitment required to succeed in this case.