

DISRUPTIVE CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR AFFECTS EVERYONE

“If you experience any of these disruptive behaviors in your classroom, this webinar is for you: arguing over test scores, bringing a child to class, talking or texting during class, loud debate, swearing, back-talking, misuse of laptop, phones ringing, smelling of alcohol and drugs on a student, comments about professor’s teaching style, leaving class early, eating in class, gathering up material before class ends, sleeping, routine tardiness, poor personal hygiene, speaking without being recognized, threatening students or other faculty, harassing.

Managed well, these behaviors are opportunities to teach the student appropriate skills to be academically and professionally successful. Managed poorly, these behaviors can lead to a poor learning environment for all students, potential violence in the classroom, professors being unmotivated to teach, and even low performance evaluations.”

Excerpt from “innovativeeducators.org”

COURSE EXPECTATIONS

STUDENT

- 1. Arrive on time** – if you are late, enter without disrupting the learning environment of the class – and be sure to allow enough travel time between campuses so that you are not routinely late.
- 2. Turn off your cell phone** – step outside of the classroom to use your cell phone. Do not text under the desk – I can still see you! and it disrupts the learning environment.
- 3. Come prepared to learn** – before coming to class, read the experiment and write the procedure in the lab notebook; skim the chapter and prepare questions to ask in class.
- 4. Be responsible** – know if you are ready for a test – determine when you need outside help – be responsible for knowing where you stand in the class at all times - be prepared for every day and be punctual.
- 5. Be respectful** – Do not read newspapers, study for your Spanish test, or do your physics homework in my class. Stay awake! Treat everyone respectfully.

6. **Be polite** – If you question something I have graded, kindly ask me to re-check it. Demanding behavior towards other students, the lab personnel, or the professor is not okay.
7. **Be assertive** – Speak up and seek clarification when you do not understand something.
8. **Keep me informed** – If you have to leave early, inform me in advance, sit near the door, and quietly exit without disrupting the class.

INSTRUCTOR

Respect for Students as demonstrated by,

1. **Begin class on time**

2. **End class on time**

3. **Organize the course so that students know what is due and when.**

Lab reports and homework deadlines are in the syllabus. Test dates will be determined in class.

4. **Treat all students fairly**

Equitable Policies: Class policies are adhered to equally for all students, in all circumstances. This means that I rarely grant an exception to a policy; if an exception is to be made, it will be made for all students, not just one.

Unless you ask questions, or ask for clarification, I cannot give you my time and attention. Others will ask for it if you do not – remember the squeaky wheel gets greased!

If I answer a question and you still do not understand, I will search for a different way to explain it until you do understand (we may have to finish the conversation in office hours).

5. **Prompt return of student work; graded objectively**

Tests and lab reports require a lot of time to grade. To ensure objectivity and consistency in grading, names are written on the back of the test, answer keys/rubrics are created before grading and problems are graded together. For example, question #1 is graded on all tests before moving on to grading question #2.

GRADING TURNAROUND TIMES

	<u>GOAL</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>
Tests:	1.5 weeks	1 week or less
Homework:	1 week	usually next class period
Lab Reports:	2 weeks*	1.5- 2 weeks
Other:	< 1-2 weeks, depending on the assignment;	

*Depends on the complexity of the experiment.

6. Relevant Assignments and Workload for Chemistry

Chemistry requires the time to process and learn – usually much more time than students expect, based on their other classes.

Abstract concepts, complex calculations, multi-step problem-solving, and cause-and-effect answers contribute to chemistry's challenging reputation.

I have eliminated “busy work” from your assignments. Unless an assignment contributes to student learning and understanding, it won't be assigned.

7. Responsiveness to the Learning Needs of Students

Operating within the guidelines and specific instructions from MiraCosta's Disabled Students Programs and Services department, I will gladly facilitate appropriate accommodations for students. If you think you might be in need of accommodations, please contact DSPS.

8. Check for comprehension before moving to the next topic

I try to always check for questions before moving on to the next topic. If I forget, and you have a question, ask me!

9. Speak clearly and concisely so that you can best understand me

My goal is to speak clearly and concisely each and every day. This does not necessarily mean that you will immediately be able to thoroughly understand the lecture topic. Many topics require thinking about them after lecture is over.

10. Encourage questions, comments and discussion in class

Questions, comments, and discussions are highly encouraged as this class is interactive. Students will be participating daily.

11. I will try different and creative approaches for clarifying concepts

If the student does not understand, I will try a different approach. If the student still does not understand, I will approach it from yet, another angle. If this last approach fails to clarify, I will ask the student to talk with me more in depth one-on-one in order to clarify any misconceptions.

12. I ask students to think deeply and thoughtfully about concepts

Critical thinking is essential to understanding chemistry on a deeper level. Together we will deconstruct laws, theories, and problems in order to better understand the concepts.

13. Available and accessible to students for consultation

Office hours are on Mondays from 9-11am in room 4512. Email me if you have a pressing question. Although I check email regularly, Tuesdays and Thursdays are sometimes difficult. Usually, I will be able to respond to your email within a few hours; occasionally, it may require 24 hrs for me to respond.