

TIPS FOR SUCCESS

CHE105/107

Our hope is that you clearly understand what is expected of you as you enter this course. Keep these points, tips, and suggestions in mind throughout the semester.

TIME COMMITMENT:

Typically 6 – 9 hours outside of class are necessary every week. This should not be saved up for the weekend prior to the exam. So, what should you do with this time?

1. **View Thinkwell lectures or read from your textbook** each day prior to coming to class. Your viewing and/or reading assignments are listed on a daily basis in your syllabus. If you do this, you will be able to get a feel for what the instructor will be talking about during the lecture.
2. After class you should **work the End-of-Chapter problems** prior to coming to the next class. **Keep up** with these problems. If you are unable to do the problems seek help - see your instructor, go to the General Chemistry Learning Center (CP-25) or get a tutor. This is the biggest key to success. If you can do these problems you are more likely to do the problems on the exam. Being able to explain a problem to other students is a good indicator of success.
3. Keep **flash cards of new terms and equations**. Learn them as you go. These are listed in bold face type in the text and at the end of each chapter under the headings “Key Equations” and “Key Words”.
4. Do the assigned **Blackboard** assignment. This gives you additional practice in working problems and understanding key concepts. These are due several days after the chapter has been completed in class. If you have done all the assigned end-of-chapter problems these assignments should not be excessively difficult. We do not give correct answers to these problems so if you have difficulty getting the right answer, print out the page after it is graded and take it to your instructor or the General Chemistry Learning Center to make sure you know how to do them.
5. If you have worked through steps 1 – 4, studying for the exam will be a **review** of worked problems, key terms and equations. It is important to work and rework problems until you can do them with out looking at your notes, the book, or getting help from anyone. You must get to the point where you can look at a problem and figure out what type of problem it is and get started with it in a timely fashion (of course successfully completing it is the final goal).

CLASS PARTICIPATION:

Attend class! Take notes. Ask questions. Answer questions. Be engaged. Your instructor is there to help bring the concepts of the book and Thinkwell to life. Keep in mind, the real learning takes place after you leave the class and start your work.

ACADEMIC SUPPORT:

If you find that you are unable to work the problems or understand the concepts, get help. Details of resources are provided in your syllabus and include: instructor’s office hours, General Chemistry Learning Center, help sessions, private tutors, additional problems and tutorials on Blackboard and at www.thinkwell.com. Do not wait until the exam is upon you to get help. Keep up!