

**PS Chemistry Regents S541**  
**2024 - 2025**  
**Mr. Paunovic**

**Course Description:**

**PHYSICAL SETTING - CHEMISTRY**

**Code: S541 Full Year (10, 11) (1 Credit) (rank weight 1.00)**

**Prerequisite: Average of 75 or Better in a Regents Science Course. Successful Completion of Geometry and Concurrently Enrolled in Algebra 2 and Trigonometry. Students enrolled in 2N need permission from the district coordinator.**

TEXTBOOK: Buthelezi, Thandi. New York Chemistry: Matter and Change. Columbus, OH: Glencoe/McGraw-Hill, 2009.

Regents Chemistry is an introductory course, which covers the fundamental topics of chemistry. Some of the topics included are: chemical bonding, acids and bases, the gas laws, stoichiometry, and electrochemistry. A more comprehensive list of topics to be covered is attached and can also be found in the WCSD course handbook. The objectives of this course are to have students attain an understanding of chemical principles and to demonstrate competence in solving chemical problems.

**The Goals of this Course:**

1. To learn about chemical principles and apply them to real-world problems.
2. To develop and improve laboratory skills and techniques.
3. To develop and enhance general problem-solving skills.
4. To prepare to pass the NYS Regents Exam in Chemistry.

**Grading:**

Quarter grades for this class are weighted by category. The percentage of points for each category breaks down to: tests – 45%, quizzes – 20%, labs – 20%, homework/class work – 15%. The final average will be an average of all four marking periods and the NYS Regents exam grade.

1. **Tests** – Major unit exams will be announced in advance. They are usually given at the completion of each major unit or chapter in the textbook.
2. **Quizzes** – Quizzes may be based on homework, class work and/or lab work. They are usually given during major units or chapters in the textbook. Announced quizzes are open notes. Unannounced quizzes may or may not be open notes.
3. **Labs** – Each student must submit a written lab report for each laboratory exercise done in class. These reports will be graded. The specific format and grading rubric for all reports will be provided. *All students in a Regents science course*

- must complete the laboratory requirement of 1200 minutes (20 hours) of satisfactory lab work prior to entry into the Science Regents Exam. **A student not in compliance with the lab requirement will not receive a passing grade for the course and will be barred from the Regents exam.***
4. **Homework** – Homework will be assigned on a day-by-day basis. Homework assignments may or may not be due for a grade depending on the nature of the assignment.
  5. **Class work** – Class work may or may not be collected and graded. Since quizzes and tests are based on class discussion, lab work, and notes taken in class, all assessments may reflect the work done in class as well as at home. *Any classwork assignment may be given a grade of zero if it is not worked on when assigned.*

### **Requirements:**

1. MATERIALS - Notes are taken extensively and all work is passed back, so a three-ring binder with plenty of looseleaf is recommended. Students are to use blue/black ink or pencil only for all assignments. Students should have a **scientific calculator** which should be brought to class each day. Students will also use their district-provided chromebooks every day.
2. Students are expected to come to class physically and mentally prepared to work. This includes **arriving on time with notebooks, pens, pencils and a calculator.**
3. Each student is required to prepare a written lab report for each laboratory exercise. The requirements for lab reports are described in a separate handout. **It should be noted that any student who does not complete the required number of lab hours will be barred from taking the Regents exam in June.**
4. It is recommended that students **spend time daily studying chemistry.** This may include reviewing notes, solving problems or reading the textbook. Remember, it is easier to keep up than to catch up!
5. ATTENDANCE – **In order to be successful in Regents Chemistry, students must attend class regularly.** Students are responsible to obtain and complete all work missed during their absences. This includes **labs, which can only be made up after school on the assigned day.** All missed work should be made up within the same number of days after the student returns as was the absence period (i.e. if a student is **legally absent** for two days, any missed work needs to be completed within two days of the student's return). If a student is absent one day before a test, he or she is expected to take the test on the scheduled day, as tests are announced in advance. If a student is absent on the day of a test, he or she will be **allowed to make up the test on the day of their return only if documentation of a legal absence is provided. Any graded assessment missed due to an unlawful absence or tardy will result in a grade of 0 for that quiz or test.**
6. CELL PHONES – In order to avoid disruptions to academic learning, all **cell phones must be turned off and put away** (in a backpack, handbag, etc.) **during class time.** According to the Student Code of Conduct, cell phones are not to be used or visible in the classroom. **Cell phones are only to be used for academic learning activities at the discretion of the teacher;** unauthorized cell phone

usage will result in parent contact followed by a written referral if the behavior continues.

**Student and Parent Resources:**

1. EXTRA HELP - Be sure to ask questions when you don't understand something – you are probably not alone! I am here to help. After school or before school (preferred) hours will be by appointment only.
2. WEBSITE – My website can be found on the RCK Homepage under the teacher links.
3. GOOGLE CLASSROOM – We will be using Google Classroom as the main platform for student assignments and information. Students are expected to join the classroom by Friday, September 13. The homework and assessment calendar as well as links to many helpful resources will be posted here. There may also be occasions when students will need to work collaboratively using Google applications or submit work online through the classroom.

**Parent/Teacher Communication:**

Parent contact is accomplished through the usual channels, i.e. progress reports and report cards. I post all assignment grades on Google Classroom. You have access to your grade throughout each quarter using Google Classroom. Should you need to contact me for any reason, the most efficient way to do so is via email at: [daniel.paunovic@wcsdny.org](mailto:daniel.paunovic@wcsdny.org). I can also be reached at school at (845) 298-5100 ext. 31072. Please leave a message, including a number where you may be reached, and I will return your call as soon as possible.

Please sign and return this page to indicate that you have read the course requirements and expectations for Regents Chemistry.

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Student Name – please print

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Period

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Student Signature

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Date

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Parent/Guardian Name – please print

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Parent/Guardian Signature

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Date

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Parent/Guardian preferred email

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Parent/Guardian preferred phone number