

***“Preparing Professionals for Changing Educational Contexts”***  
**Department of Curriculum and Instruction**  
**College of Education, University of Nevada, Las Vegas**

**Course Syllabus**  
***CIG 595D (2 credits)***  
***RPDP AP Chemistry Summer Institute 2012***  
***Summer Semester 2012***  
***June 25–28, 2012***

**Instructor:**

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**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

***CIG 595D: RPDP AP Chemistry Summer Institute 2012***

This four-day institute is an in-depth examination of the *College Board Advanced Placement Chemistry* curriculum from both content and pedagogical perspectives. Students in the course explore the theory and practice of chemistry concepts and procedures, develop and participate in methods of teaching topics, and create and discuss assessment of student knowledge. Two credits.

**GENERAL COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

***Knowledge***

*The education professional will:*

- Describe the structure of the AP Chemistry course and its corresponding assessment.
- Identify appropriate classroom materials for the AP Chemistry classroom.
- Explain concepts, skills, and procedures from the AP Chemistry curriculum.
- Describe techniques and content-specific strategies that can be used in the AP Chemistry classroom.

***Performance Skills***

*The education professional will:*

- Create an instructional plan to prepare students for success in AP Chemistry course work.
- Design assessments to measure student achievement in AP Chemistry.
- Review data related to student performance the AP Chemistry Exam.

***Dispositions***

*The education professional will be able to:*

- Reflect on one’s practices to improve instruction in AP Chemistry.
- Pursue knowledge of topics relevant to AP Chemistry by reading professional journals and publications, and using media such as AP Central and electronic discussion groups.

### **Outcomes**

*The education professional will be able to:*

- Understand appropriate and effective strategies to teach skills and concepts in AP Chemistry.
- Recognize traditional areas of weakness in student achievement in AP Chemistry.

### **Specific Course Objectives:**

- Create a student-centered rather than teacher-centered classroom.
- Engage in a hands-on, minds-on approach to learning.
- Promote cooperative learning through some group or partner activities.
- Integrate technology, where appropriate.
- Build a quality AP program through identification of students with appropriate aptitude, ability, and interest.

### **REQUIRED TEXTS/READINGS:**

- AP Chemistry Course Description.
- Pre-institute readings as determined by the instructor.

### **COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

Participant's teaching assignment/license will determine course eligibility.

### **EVALUATION:**

Full attendance in all sessions, out-of-session homework assignments, and active participation in the courses for the entire week is mandatory.

### **MODES OF INSTRUCTION:**

A combination of interactive lecture, cooperative learning groups, whole-group discussion, and hands-on labs will be used to assist the teachers in developing an understanding a concept, skill, procedure, or assessment method. Technology will be used when appropriate.

### **ASSIGNMENTS/PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENTS:**

Homework will be assigned daily, for the first three days of the four-day institute. Instructor may require pre-institute readings and/or require participants to bring lessons and activities to share with the class.

### **GRADING:**

Attendance, Homework & Participation: 100% of total grade

### **COURSE SCHEDULE:**

The daily schedule of the four-day institute is as follows:

8:00 a.m.–11:45 a.m	Class Session
11:45 a.m.–12:15 p.m.	Lunch Break
12:15 p.m.–4:00 p.m	Class Session

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