Course Description: This course is an introductory year-long 10th grade course and will cover the main topics of atomic structure, chemical/element/compound classification, states of matter and chemical reactions. Students will have numerous opportunities to conduct labs in order to observe and make measurements involving the concepts they are studying. By the end of the year it is our goal that all students will have a new perspective on interactions of the physical and natural world around them, an increased appreciation for science and technology and stronger skills in general problem solving, numerical analysis and logic and reasoning.

The class concludes with an exciting fourth quarter unit called "Artist as Chemist". The challenge of this unit is for students to create and present a piece of artwork for a museum using various chemistry techniques. Students will also create a pamphlet to explain the chemistry involved.


General class assessments: Students will take unit tests approximately every two weeks at the close of each area of learning. Students will take a midterm exam in January that will cover the first semester topics, and a final exam in June that will cover second semester topics.

Lab assessments:
First quarter: Students will write a formal Research section for one of their first semester labs.

Second quarter: Students will write a formal Discussion section for one of their second quarter labs.

Third quarter: Students will write up a formal Lab Report for one of their third quarter labs.

Fourth quarter assessments for "Artist as Chemist" unit: Students will present the artwork which they produced during the unit. Students will create a museum pamphlet explaining the chemistry involved in producing the artwork.

Grading:
- Attendance and Punctuality: 20%
- In class participation and behavior: 20%
- Quizzes/Tests: 20%
- Homework/Projects/Labs: 20%
- Performance-based assessment: 20%
**Organization:** Class materials (labs, worksheets, readings, videos etc.) will be posted on the class website: [www.chemistryisreal.weebly.com](http://www.chemistryisreal.weebly.com). Students will be notified in advance to print out upcoming assignments from this site and bring them to class - in their binders. It is essential that students do this so that they are prepared during class. All class materials should be kept in a three-ring binder so that they can be easily added, removed or rearranged.

**Absences and tutoring:** I will be available two periods per week at posted times to provide additional help with chemistry concepts or work. Also, if you miss class (absent or late) visit me during these times. It is your responsibility to see me for every class you miss to ensure that you get a missed assignment, an interesting and/or helpful explanation or take a quiz or test if you missed it. Avoiding or not preparing for quizzes, ignoring missed classes and failing to get help on confusing topics will significantly lower your grade.

**Working in lab groups:** Working in groups is a great way to draw on each group member's strengths, knowledge and perspectives leading to better understanding. Groups are great for motivation—you are responsible to others, which can lead you to do more and better work than you might have if you were only responsible to yourself. Groupings will be changed periodically and if a group is not working productively it will be changed.

**Required supplies:**
1" three-ring binder: To keep handouts and loose leaf paper in.
Three hole punch to prepare handouts for binder (may be kept at home)
Scientific calculator: Texas Instruments TI-30XS II, Casio FX-300ES PLUS or similar models are acceptable - they must be able to do exponential and square root operations as well as logarithms. Calculators must be brought to class everyday.
Lined paper (for binder)
Pen and pencil

I have read the above carefully and understand the class policies and expectations. I agree to be prepared to attend class each day on time. I understand that I am responsible to complete all homework assignments by their due dates.

Print your name _______________________________________________________

Student signature __________________________________ date ________________

Parent signature ___________________________________ date ________________