

## CH 131 LABORATORY POLICY UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA

Chemistry is fundamentally an experimental science. Laboratory activities help provide a setting within which students are encouraged to discover and analyze. In light of the importance of this activity the Chemistry Department has developed the following policies.

### A. SAFETY REGULATIONS FOR LABORATORY ACTIVITY

Two copies of the *safety policy sheet* are in the lab manual. It should be read carefully, signed, and one returned to the laboratory instructor at the end of the first laboratory meeting and the other should remain in the lab manual for the student's reference. **The safety rules will be vigorously enforced:** noncompliance will result in dismissal from the laboratory.

### B. ATTENDANCE POLICY

1. **CH 131 and CH 131L must be taken concurrently. If you DROP/WITHDRAW FROM EITHER THE LECTURE OR THE LABORATORY, you must also drop/withdraw from the co-requisite course. One course cannot be completed without the other.** Passing grades in **BOTH** courses are prerequisites for registering for CH 132.
2. **ATTENDANCE** at ALL laboratory exercises is required. Attendance will be confirmed by BOTH your presence at the laboratory **and** by the instructor's signature on the data sheet at the completion of the exercise. Participation in the laboratory exercises is allowed only for those students present for ALL pre-lab instructions.

### C. LABORATORY GRADE

1. The grade will consist of the sum of the average of the assigned laboratory exercise grades (80%) and the laboratory PRACTICUM (20%).
2. The lowest laboratory exercise grade earned during the semester will be dropped at the end of the term.
3. As a rule, make-ups are **NOT ALLOWED**, regardless of the circumstance. However, a student who must be absent for a **REQUIRED** University function must contact the Laboratory Manager as soon as possible prior to the absence to determine what, if any, accommodations can be made. Regardless, the drop grade must be used before any consideration will be made. (Any *extended absence* must be reported to the Dean of Students and will be addressed on a case-by-case basis by the Laboratory Manager.)
  - a. The drop grade will be used for a missed laboratory session. **The PRACTICUM may NOT be used for the drop grade.**
  - b. More than one absence during the term will result in a grade of zero for each additional laboratory exercise missed.
4. The final laboratory course grade will be assigned on a standard A (90-100), B (80-89), C (70-79), D (60-69), F (< 60).
5. Laboratory **REPORTS ARE DUE** at the *beginning* of the next lab session following completion of the exercise **even if you cannot be present**. If necessary, the report may be submitted to the main office (Room 223) or the stockroom (Room 125) where it will be dated before being placed in the laboratory instructor's mailbox. **NO** late lab reports will be accepted. *Failure to submit a report will result in a grade of zero.*

### F. EQUIPMENT RESPONSIBILITY

1. Students are responsible for their assigned equipment from the time of laboratory check-in until check-out .
  - a. **WITHDRAWALS:** Request check-out by your Laboratory Instructor at the earliest session of your laboratory following your decision to withdraw.
  - b. **END OF TERM:** Complete check-out procedure per published schedule (syllabus).
2. **CHECK-OUT:** After your instructor has checked your desk and locked it, you must **IMMEDIATELY** leave the laboratory, **go to the stockroom**, and clear your records. Payment for monies owed may be by cash, check or they may be applied to your PAWS account. Monetary charges owed to the department must be paid by last day of classes for the semester. After that date, any unpaid charges, including DCO's, will automatically be applied to your PAWS account.
3. If you do not complete your own check-out by the scheduled check-out date for your lab section, your laboratory instructor will do it for you, and you will be charged for missing items or items unacceptable (broken, chipped, dirty) for reissue **PLUS** a departmental check-out fee, (DCO), of **\$50.00** .