

Dr. Ted Fickel  
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If you are trying to add the class, please come to the first day of lab meeting (Tuesday, Feb 7) and I will add as many students as I can. I do not keep a waitlist and so there is no need to email me before the start of class—just come the first day and I will add as many students as I can.

Welcome to Chemistry 68 at Los Angeles Valley College presented as an online 'hybrid' format. This course covers the same material as Chem 68 presented on campus and has the same expectations as that course. This course differs only in that the lectures and discussion are conducted online rather than in the classroom. We meet in the laboratory on Tuesdays from 7:30 am to 9:35 am to complete the same experiments conducted in the on campus version of Chem 68.

I must know how many of my registered students actually intend to take the class. Therefore you **must sign into the Etudes site by Monday evening, Feb 6, 2012**. You must also attend the first lab session Tuesday, Feb 7, at 7:30 am. If you have some difficulty in signing into the Etudes site by Monday evening, then email me immediately so we can solve your log in problems and I will know you intend on taking the class. Otherwise you will be dropped from the class.

The required text for this class is *Introductory Chemistry—Principles and Practice* by Ted Fickel. It is available online for free in the Resources sections of your Etudes site. There are hard copies available for sale in the Off Campus Bookstore on Burbank Blvd but I think you will find it best to use the online version. The required lab manual is also available online in your Resources section. The only purchases you must make are a pair of chemical goggles required for the laboratory. I do strongly urge, however, that you also purchase a scientific calculator capable of working in scientific notation rather than relying on the calculator installed in your computer.

I also strongly urge that you download the Firefox browser available to you as freeware and use it when doing your online course work. I have a number of self guided practice problems in the modules of the Etudes site that cover each of the topics that we cover. You will want to fill in the blanks in these problems and save a copy of your work on your desktop—you will need to save these documents as Firefox web pages. . You will find the web address for the free download of Firefox in the Resources section of the Etudes site along with other useful website addresses and other documents required for the course.

General chemistry is a problem solving class—the most effective use of your study time is to work problems. I believe the online format is perfect for this kind of class because you will (or should) spend most of your time solving problems yourself rather than watching your instructor solve them on the board. In addition to self-guided problems, I present many videos demonstrating the proper approach to solving these problems. If necessary, you can watch them over and over again. In the end, the more time you spend working on problems yourself, the more chemistry you will learn.