

## Alternative Studies for Regents Chemistry

You have been approved for "alternative studies" for chemistry this summer. This means you will teach yourself the Regents Chemistry curriculum and then take a school exam on Tuesday August 20, 2024. If you earn an 85% or above, this score will satisfy the prerequisite for an advanced science course requiring chemistry. It is not possible to earn credit for chemistry based on the AHS Chemistry Exam in August. Taking the August Chemistry Exam serves to meet prerequisites only.

You will take an Arlington High School August Chemistry Exam on **Tuesday August 20 at 8:00 a.m.** The exam location is in person at **Arlington High School, room 2305**. The room number will be confirmed again as the date gets closer. You will need a calculator and a writing utensil. A chemistry textbook has been provided for you to borrow for the summer. Please bring it with you on the test date to return it. You will have up to 3 hours to take the exam. You will be notified of your exam score within a few days of the test.

The AHS August Chemistry Exam is the same format and difficulty as a Regents Chemistry exam. The most helpful content for AP Chemistry and AP Biology will focus on bonding, intermolecular forces and organic chemistry, however the August test will represent the entire scope of the Regents Chemistry curriculum. The exam will be 85 questions with 50 multiple-choice and 35 constructed-response questions. An archive of all Regents exams and scoring keys is available at: <http://www.nysedregents.org/Chemistry/> We strongly recommend that you utilize these practice exams.

Every year, we provide the following resources to students for their summer studies:

- [Syllabus for Regents Chemistry at Arlington High School](#)
- [NY Chemistry Reference Table \(CRT\)](#)

You can also access the NYSED Core Curriculum Guide for Physical Setting/Chemistry from the following web address: <http://www.nysed.gov/common/nysed/files/programs/curriculum-instruction/chemist.pdf>

In addition to a chemistry textbook, here are some online resources to help you learn chemistry:

- <https://www.ck12.org/student/> This free website has an entire chemistry course for students to consider using. It has not been vetted by the district to ensure that it aligns to student Data Privacy Law 2D, so families should make their own determination as to whether or not to create an account.
- The following websites have a collection of regents chemistry resources (notes and videos) from NY chemistry teachers (not Arlington teachers):
  - Provides structure of units with notes and resources:
    - Mr. Arbuiso ~ Vestal High School: <http://arbuiso.com/slideshows/>. Start with the sections for "notes + basics" which is the entire course, use the homework practice problems, and there is a regents review section too.
  - Provides extra videos and/or notes for all chemistry topics:
    - Crash Course Chemistry for videos from every unit of chemistry: <https://thecrashcourse.com/topic/chemistry>
    - Professor Dave also has videos from every unit of chemistry: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLybg94GvOJ9EbbO2RXPWTUNIIIE0C7hSfm>
    - Mr. Kent's Chemistry provides notes and videos: <http://www.kentchemistry.com/>
    - Mr. Palermo's Flipped Chemistry Classroom provides notes and practice materials: <http://www.mrpalermo.com/>
- You have the option of buying a chemistry review book on your own, but this is not required. If you want to purchase this book, we recommend Barron's "Let's Review Regents Chemistry: The Physical

Setting," which you can order from Amazon for under \$20 (the BLUE book is the review book you want - the red book has practice exams which are free online from the state). Again, this is not a required purchase. Any edition of this book from the past 5 years will be fine.

<https://www.amazon.com/Lets-Review-Regents-Chemistry-Physical-Setting/dp/1506264697/>

Please be advised that successfully completing alternative credit will not guarantee placement in a particular science course the following year. If you are unable to get a seat in an AP science course next year, we strongly recommend that students take a full chemistry class (like honors chemistry) at AHS.

Students and parents should note that the science department recommends that all students intending to study science in college first take a chemistry lab course at AHS. Alternative credit does not provide any lab experience and it will not show up on a transcript. Students using alternative studies in chemistry over the summer often struggle in AP chemistry because the summer study covers a minimum level of chemistry knowledge. Please consider your science course sequence not only in terms of the highest factor classes but also in terms of the skills and experiences that will benefit students prior to college lab courses.

All of the links included in this letter can also be found on the science department website at

<https://www.arlingtonschools.org/Page/23097>.

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Binnie, the science coordinator, at [cbinnie@acsdny.org](mailto:cbinnie@acsdny.org).

Sincerely,

Mrs. Binnie  
AHS Science Coordinator