Late Transfers from Chemistry 109 to 103
Policies for Spring 2016

The Chemistry Department offers a few different options for students needing to take general chemistry. The majority of students satisfy their general chemistry requirements with the two-semester sequence Chemistry 103/104. Students with a strong background in math and chemistry have the option to take the more advanced one-semester equivalent, Chemistry 109 or 109 Honors. The majority of students (~83%) who take Chem 109 have had two years or more of high school chemistry. Taking Chem 109 allows students to satisfy their general chemistry requirements sooner and progress more quickly to other courses in their major. However, Chem 109 is very fast-paced and not the best choice for everyone.

Choosing among Chem 103, Chem 109 and Chem 109 Honors can be difficult for some students. They might not have a good idea of how they will fare until they are actually in the course for a few weeks. Therefore, the Chemistry Department has a policy that permits students to do a late transfer from Chem 109 or 109 Honors to Chem 103, after the normal deadline to add a course.

Swapping chemistry classes before the add deadline (Friday, January 29)

Prior to the add deadline, students are free to swap among any of the introductory chemistry courses (Chem 103/104/109) for which they meet the prerequisites. No special permissions are required. If the section the student needs or wants is full, students are encouraged to get on the wait list. They may also stop by the Undergraduate Chemistry Office (Room 1328 Chemistry) for assistance in identifying sections with the shortest wait lists.

Swapping from Chem 109 to Chem 103 after the add deadline (Jan 30 through Feb 11)

The deadline for requesting a late transfer is **4 pm on Thursday, February 11**, a few days after the first Chem 109 mid-term exam. Late transfers from Chem 109 to Chem 103 require special permission and are contingent on space being available in Chem 103. Students will need to come to the Undergraduate Chemistry Office (Room 1328 Chemistry) to request the swap. Enrollment assistance will be available Monday through Friday, from approximately 8:00 am to 4:15 pm with a break sometime over the lunch hour.

Only swaps from Chem 109 to Chem 103 are permitted after the January 29 normal add deadline. Late transfers from Chem 109 to Chem 104 are not permitted.

In general, students are strongly encouraged to decide which chemistry course is the best fit for them as early as possible. The later the transition is made, the more difficult it is for students to learn the missed material and assimilate into their new class.

Missed work from Chem 103

Students will need to contact their new TA and professor regarding work they have missed in Chem 103. **Students transferring late to Chem 103 are expected to take the first Chem 103 mid-term exam, which is on Monday, February 15.** Students will not be penalized for missing work that was due before they joined the class. Depending on the instructor's policy, they will either be excused from the missed work or be given an opportunity to make it up. Students are responsible for learning the material that was covered before they joined the class. They can expect to see this material on the first exam and on the final exam. For the most
part, the material covered in the first few weeks of Chem 103 is the same material that Chem 109 students are expected to know at the start of the semester.

**Textbook, Lab Manual and other Chem 103 materials**

The textbook and online homework system is the same for Chem 103 and Chem 109, but the lab manual is not. Beginning on Feb 1, students who do a late swap from Chem 109 to Chem 103 may exchange their Lab Manual at no charge at the first floor stockroom window (Room 1334). Students may use the same lab notebook they had for Chem 109.

**Removal of DR (drop) notation on transcript**

For Spring 2016, the deadline for dropping a class without a DR notation appearing on the student's transcript is Wednesday, January 27. If a student swaps from Chem 109 to 103 after this deadline, the Chemistry Department will petition the dean of the student's college to have the DR notation removed. If the dean approves, Chem 109 will not appear on the transcript under the Spring 2016 semester. Instead, the Chem 109 drop is backdated and a note placed in the memoranda section of the transcript. The memoranda section appears on the Student Record (also known as an unofficial transcript) that students can view through their Student Center. The memoranda section does not appear on the student's official transcript. Please note that having just one or two DR notations on a transcript does not adversely affect a student. A pattern of DR notations over multiple semesters could be more problematic.

**Key Dates**

- **Wed, Jan 27**       Last day to drop without DR notation on transcript
- **Fri, Jan 29**       Last day to add a course without departmental approval
- **Mon, Feb 8**        Chem 109 first mid-term exam
- **Thurs, Feb 11 by 4 PM** Last day to transfer from Chem 109 to Chem 103
- **Mon, Feb 15**       Chem 103 first mid-term exam