General Science 1000

Course Outline, Sections 1 and 4, FW 2011-12

Section 1 (Sept. 13 and Sept. 20, 2011)

Section 4 (Jan. 10 and Jan. 17, 2012)

Contact Information

Section Instructor:	C. D. MacKinnon	Office:	CB-4038, CB-2030 (lab)
E-mail:	craig.mackinnon@lakeheadu.ca	Phone:	343-8327
	http://www.chemistry.lakeheadu.ca/personal/mackinnon/GS1000.html		
Office hours:	Section 1: M-F 10:30 – 11:30 am (September)		
	Section 4: TBA (January)		

Overview

These modules will introduce both practical and philosophical aspects of the nature of scientific enquiry, focusing how measurements are made, reported, and used.

Topics: Definitions of terms (large/small numbers, S.I. units, etc.)
Definitions of fields (science, engineering, technology, etc.)
The nature of science (scientific revolutions, experimental *vs.* observational)
Causality, use of statistics in science

Evaluation:

Item	*Value:* (% of this section)	(% of entire course)
quiz (September 27)	25	4
quiz (January)	25	4
Demonstration participation	50	8
Total:	100	16

Participation Component:

The UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization) has a number of commemorations happening this year; the Scientific branch is celebrating the "International Year of Chemistry." Thus, students (in groups of 3 or more) will be responsible for visiting an elementary school and assisting the professor in a chemistry demonstration. The demos will be scheduled over the month of November by the professor, who will be in contact with the students to arrange a specific demonstration time. Obviously these will be during school hours and the class grade level will vary with the wishes of the school we are visiting. If anyone specifically wants to do a demonstration *en français*, this might be possible to arrange as well (the professor's accent is appalling, and we'll have to do extra work in looking up the scientific terms, but those are simply details).