

CH 302 Random Musings, Spring 2006, Top of the First (January 23, 2007)

1. For folks new to the class, this is the first of a collection of random musings that I post once a week to keep you abreast of what is going on in class. Most important, specific questions about quizzes and exams as well as changes to the syllabus are provided here. Remember, it is your responsibility to read the musings even if you cannot come to class (they will be posted on the web.) I take a wearied view of students asking me questions that I previously answered in this forum.

2. Everybody has a preference for the kind of humanity they hang with—old people, adults, college students.... for my money nothing beats hanging out with children. I have made a bunch of them myself, including a few your age, but there is a new crop coming along. The oldest of this batch, Sam, is six and is named after Sam-I-Am, of Green Eggs and Ham fame. Sam is further proof that if you have enough kids, one of them will become an engineer. Maddie is my four year old and is named after the Madeline character. She is proof that if you have enough kids, one will be a girl. I am still learning how to raise daughters but one thing I know for sure from being around one is that I am wrong, always. My youngest, and I hope to God, last, is my two year old, Nate Dog, who is not named after Nate Dogg, the rapper(who has two gs in his name.) Nate Dog, the son, is a punk, and proof that if you have enough kids, one of them will make you not want to have any more. Below are pictures of them feeding ducks on New Year's Day and playing Double Dare You on one of the ice days and agreeing to jump on a trampoline covered in ice in their wet bathing suits.



3. Your first quiz is Tuesday, one week from today and will cover the material in Chapter 8. For those new to this class, quizzes are used instead of homework as my way of forcing you to keep up with the material. They are not intended to be as challenging as the tests. Some things you should know about quiz procedures:

- Quizzes will occur the last 20 minutes of class and will cover 8 questions worth five points each.
- You will be provided a scantron at the beginning of class to be filled in correctly. It is important that
- You learn to do this so you can get credit for your quizzes and exams.
- I will provide you with all necessary equations and constants at the beginning of the quiz.
- I am not a real stickler for time on quizzes (I am a stickler on exams) but you do need to be finished in time for the other class to come in.
- Expect to have the quiz grades and the answer key posted on the HW Service soon after the class ends.
- If there is a problem with your grade, refer to the regrade procedure in the syllabus and on the web--do not e-mail us about this. Instead, fill out a regrade request and turn it in.
- There are no make-ups for quizzes. You get to drop two so they are used in that way for both academic and non-academic reasons. Only contact me about make-ups if your absences are chronic.

4. The question types for Quiz 1 are straight from Chapter 8:

- Calculating ΔH for a substance across various phase changes
- Interpreting phase diagrams
- Theory of solvation of salts in water
- Ranking miscibility in liquids
- Clausius-Clapeyron calculation
- Van't Hoff ranking of magnitude of colligative properties
- Raoult's Law in a binary system
- Colligative property calculation

5. This is actually a fairly tough quiz with some multi-step calculations. Neal will be making a 20 question worksheet that includes these kinds of problem types. See if he will finish it before Sunday so you can spend the weekend studying it. By the way, for those of you who start to feel overwhelmed about all the material, just remember that you need to do these 8 things for next week's quiz and study these directly.

6. Those of you who want to know your quiz results will need to sign up for the HW Service. It really is as simple as that. You can reach it from a link on my web site. Every class has the person in it who is the last one to sign up for the HW Service. I usually get to know that person well at the end of the course and often hand out a slacker of the year prize to him (it has never been a her). Either that or I have to flunk him because I can't find out his exam scores. It can go either way—is it worth the risk?

7. Some have asked if I will have a course packet this spring. Sadly, since I am adding new material, I don't want to sell you something incomplete and instead have posted everything on the web. If you want to reproduce last falls course packet, simply go to the 302 web site and down load in order:

- the syllabus
- the old quizzes and exams
- the old worksheets and answer keys
- the lecture notes as they are written

8. Laude's Office Hours. I have one office hour a day, Monday through Thursday. Attendance varies significantly, from a couple of students to hundreds depending on urgency of the learning (ie. is there a test soon.) My preference is to hold them in my office when fewer than 30 show up, cause I dig the intimacy. But when intimacy becomes a crowd it is time to move to a classroom. So I will let you know as best I can when it will be one place or another. But as a rule, on the day before and the day of a quiz or test, the office hour will be in the classroom. So for example, there is a quiz Next Tuesday so office hours will be in the classrooms. This week, however, only the couple dozen stalwarts show up each time so we are meeting in my office. If there is something more personal you would like to discuss with me, you will need to make an appointment with my assistant since my office hours are always open door.

Monday 2 to 3 pm	WCH 2.222 or WEL 2.304	Discussion section	Dave Laude
Tuesday 12:30 to 1:30 pm	WCH 2.222 or WCH 1.120	Discussion section	Dave Laude
Wednesday 1 to 2 pm	WCH 2.222 or BUR 212	Discussion section	Dave Laude
Thursday 11 a.m. to noon	WCH 2.222 or BUR 216	Discussion Section	Dave Laude

9. Academic Communities and Peer Assistants. To make the academic communities work effectively, we need your assistance to run the study groups smoothly. The TAs can't do it alone and so in the past I have had success asking students to serve as peers in this effort. This spring each TA will form a collection of his or her own peer assistants who will meet for dinner with the TA in the residence hall and discuss the upcoming work, the study groups, and life in general. I typically need about five to seven per night. If you would like to participate, please e-mail a TA associated with your preferred nights. What you would do on a weekly basis is

come to dinner with the TA before the discussion sessions to go over the answers to the worksheets. You would later circulate in the study groups that evening fostering good study group activity as work is done on the worksheets and other materials in preparation for quizzes and exams. If you don't have a meal plan, we can arrange for you to eat for free if you are selected as a peer assistant. Possible times and locations for Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday evenings are listed below.

<i>day and time</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>activity</i>	<i>usual presider</i>
Sunday 6 to 6:30 pm	Jester Dining Hall	Peer to peer dinner w/ TA	Neal Miller
Sunday 6:30 to 7:30 pm.	Jester A121A	Discussion section	Neal Miller
Sunday 7:30 to 9:30 pm	Jester Dining Hall	Academic community	Neal Miller
Monday 6:30 to 7 pm.	Kinsolving dining	Peer to peer dinner w/ TA	Mazen Hariri
Monday 7 to 8 pm	LLB 103	Discussion section	Mazen Hariri
Monday 8 to 10 pm	Kinsolving dining hall	Academic community	Mazen Hariri
Tuesday 6:30 to 7 pm.	Kinsolving dining	Peer to peer dinner w/ TA	Vanessa Williams
Tuesday 7 to 8 pm	LLB 103	Discussion section	Vanessa Williams
Tuesday 8 to 10 pm	Kinsolving dining	Academic community	Vanessa Williams
Wednesday 6 to 6:30 pm	Jester Dining Hall	Peer to peer dinner w/ TA	Keren Hilgendorf
Wednesday 6:30 to 7:30 pm.	Jester A305A	Discussion section	Keren Hilgendorf
Wednesday 7:30 to 9:30 pm	Jester Dining Hall	Academic community	Keren Hilgendorf

10. Free advertising. I provide a service to students by allowing them to advertise reasonable student organizations and activities in the musings (this means I have to draw the line at debaucherous frat parties and raves). Just e-mail me by midnight before I post a musings and I will add it.

- For example, I mentioned UTeach Outreach as a service learning course that gives you graded credit for teaching in elementary schools. Although the info sessions are over, if you are still interested, please contact Mary Miller at UTO@mail.utexas.edu and learn more about the program at <http://cns.utexas.edu/uteachoutreach>

11. Poetry Corner. For those of you new to the class, a poem or two is read every week for the culturally challenged. Personally I prefer dark, brooding angry male poetry. So if you want cheeriness and love, like on Valentine's Day, you'll need to forward suggestions. For right now, it is winter and the New Year so here is an appropriate poem. Actually it describes something pretty profound, the clash of old and new knowledge--new knowledge being that gained from science and exploring. Notice Tennyson is unimpressed with it all. I thought you would appreciate that Tennyson questions whether anything about science is worth knowing. By the way, translate "aught" as "anything" here.

I stood on a Tower

Alfred, Lord Tennyson (1865)

I stood on a tower in the wet,
 And New Year and Old Year met,
 And winds were roaring and blowing;
 And I said, "O years, that meet in tears,
 Have ye aught that is worth the knowing?
 Science enough and exploring,
 Wanderers coming and going,
 Matter enough for deploring,
 But aught that is worth the knowing?
 Seas at my feet were flowing,
 Waves on the shingle pouring,
 Old Year roaring and blowing,
 And New Year blowing and roaring.