# Course Approval Form

**Action Requested:**
- [X] Create new course
- [ ] Inactivate existing course
- [ ] Modify existing course (check all that apply)
  - Title
  - Prereq/coreq
  - Credits
  - Schedule Type
  - Repeat Status
  - Restrictions
  - Grade Type

**Course Level:**
- [X] Undergraduate
- [ ] Graduate

**College/School:**
- COS

**Department:**
- CHEMISTRY & BIOCHEMISTRY

**Submitted by:**
- G.L.R. WEATHERSPoon
  - Ext: 3-1456
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**Subject Code:**
- CHEM

**Number:**
- 211

**Effective Term:**
- X Fall
  - Spring
  - Year
  - 2016
  - Summer

**Fulfills Mason Core Req?** (undergrad only)
- [X] Currently fulfills requirement natural science lecture

**Title:**
- Current General Chemistry

**Credits:**
- [X] Fixed
  - Variable
  - 3

**Repeat Status:**
- Not Repeatable (NR)
  - Repeatable within degree (RD)
  - Repeatable within term (RT)

**Schedule Type:**
- Lecture (LEC)
  - Lab (LAB)
  - Recitation (RCT)
  - Internship (INT)

**Restrictions Enforced by System:**
- Major, College, Degree, Program, etc. (include code)

**Prerequisite(s):**
- CHEM 213

**Corequisite(s):**

**Description** (No more than 60 words, use verb phrases and present tense)

*CHEM 211 is a prerequisite to CHEM 212. Fundamental principles of atomic and molecular structure; chemical bonding; basic concepts of chemical reactions and thermochemistry; properties of gases, liquids, and solids. Students majoring in science, engineering, or mathematics should choose this course sequence. Repeat Status = N2; limits the maximum number of attempts that a student can take the course to 2 attempts without departmental approval.*

**Indicate number of contact hours:**
- Hours of Lecture or Seminar per week: [ ] 3
- Hours of Lab or Studio: [ ] 0

**Catalog Copy for NEW Courses Only** (Consult University Catalog for models)

**Notes** (List additional information for the course)

- Repeat Status = N2; limits the maximum number of attempts that a student can take the course to 2 attempts without departmental approval.
- CHEM 211 (3 credit lecture) + CHEM 213 (1 credit lab) are equivalent to CHEM 211 (4 credit linked lecture & lab course) prior to Fall 2016.
- Fulfills Mason Core requirement in natural science lecture.
- Credit will not be given for this course and CHEM 103, CHEM 104.
- CHEM 211 is equivalent to CHEM 201 prior to Fall 2016.

**For Graduate Courses Only**

**For Registrar Office’s Use Only:** Banner ____________________________ Catalog ________________ revised 6/22/15
FOR ALL COURSES (required)
Course Number and Title: CHEM 211 General Chemistry-I

Date of Departmental Approval: 10/12/2015

FOR INACTIVATED/REINSTATED COURSES (required if inactivating/reinstating a course)
- Reason for Inactivating/Reinstating:

FOR MODIFIED COURSES (required if modifying a course)
- Summary of the Modification: Lecture and lab components of GenChem-1 are being decoupled so that students will have the flexibility to repeat only the portion of the course where they want to improve their grade, rather than the entire coupled course. This option is currently available to transfer and summer students from other universities, but not our traditionally matriculating GMU students.
  - This course will be equivalent to CHEM 201 prior to Fall 2016.

- Text before Modification (title, repeat status, catalog description, etc.):
  - CHEM 211 - General Chemistry (4:3:3); Not Repeatable
  - Basic facts and principles of chemistry, including atomic and molecular structure, gas laws, kinetics, equilibrium, electrochemistry, nuclear chemistry, and properties and uses of the more important elements and their compounds.
  - Fulfills Mason Core requirement in natural science (lab).
  - Notes: Credit will not be given for this course and CHEM 103, 104. Students majoring in science, engineering, or mathematics should choose this course sequence.
  - Hours of Lecture or Seminar per week: 3
  - Hours of Lab or Studio per week: 3

- Text after Modification (title, repeat status, catalog description, etc.):
  - CHEM 211 - General Chemistry-I (3:3:0); Repeat Status = N2
  - Fundamental principles of atomic and molecular structure; chemical bonding; basic concepts of chemical reactions and thermochemistry; and properties of gases, liquids, and solids.
  - Fulfills Mason Core requirement in natural science (lab).
  - Notes: Credit will not be given for this course and CHEM 103, CHEM 104. Students majoring in science, engineering, or mathematics should choose this course sequence.
  - Hours of Lecture or Seminar per week: 3
  - Hours of Lab or Studio per week: 0

- Reason for the Modification:
  1. Quite a few of our transfer students come from VCU, Christopher Newport, William & Mary (usually summer session students), JMU, Norfolk State, ODU, UVA, Virginia State and Virginia Tech. The traditional students at these universities experience academic hiccups the same as
our students, however, the de-coupled nature of their GenChem lecture/lab courses makes it easier for them to repeat the component they failed rather than the entire course. We service many of these students when they return to the Fairfax area for summer session and the bookkeeping is rather interesting.

2. We have lab waivers but not lecture waivers, which means that our students are required to repeat lecture and lab if they fail the course. Decoupling the linked courses would allow OUR STUDENTS to repeat the failed component only, i.e. repeat lab only if they pass the lecture portion of the course—-the same as is currently done with organic, physical, instrumental analysis, inorganic and biochemistry courses. The mechanism that we currently have in place for transfer students (and summer sessions) allows visiting students to enroll in lecture or lab only, which gives them an unfair advantage over traditional GMU matriculating students.

3. Decoupling the lecture and lab components of the course would eliminate the need for lab waivers each semester. Currently, the office staff is bombarded and interrupted with phone calls, non-scheduled office visits and email requests for information regarding eligibility and filing of lab waivers.

4. Enrollment snapshots would accurately reflect the numbers as they stand, independently of each other, in the lecture and lab courses. This will eliminate the mismatch that students often encounter when lab waivers have been filed and there are open seats in lab, yet the lecture shows as CLOSED.

5. Coding for CHEM 211 (nothing currently exists) will be modified to reflect concurrent/co-requisite enrollment in lecture and lab.

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FOR NEW COURSES (required if creating a new course)

- Reason for the New Course:
- Relationship to Existing Programs:
- Relationship to Existing Courses:
- Semester of Initial Offering:
- Proposed Instructors:
- Insert Tentative Syllabus Below