**General Chemistry Lab Safety**

**Mr. C. Rodriguez**

1. Safety goggles **must be worn at all times** while in the laboratory. Lab Aprons must also be used.
2. Contact lenses are not allowed. Even when worn under safety goggles, various fumes may accumulate under the lens and cause serious injuries or blindness.
3. Closed toe shoes and long pants must be worn in the lab. Sandals and shorts are not allowed.
4. Long hair must be tied back when using open flames.
5. Eating and drinking are strictly prohibited in the laboratory.
6. No unauthorized experiments are to be performed.
7. Never taste anything. Never directly smell the source of any vapor or gas; instead by means of your cupped hand, waft a small sample to your nose. Do not inhale these vapors but take in only enough to detect an odor if one exists.
8. Coats, backpacks, etc., should not be left on the lab benches and stools. Leave them at the front of the class.
9. Always wash your hands before leaving lab.
10. Learn where the safety and first-aid equipment are located and how to use them. This includes fire extinguishers, fire blankets, and eye-wash stations.
11. Notify the instructor immediately in case of an accident.
12. Consider **all** chemicals to be hazardous unless you are instructed otherwise. [Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS)](http://chemlabs.uoregon.edu/Safety/MSDS.html) are available in lab for all chemicals in use. These will inform you of any hazards and precautions of which you should be aware.
13. Know what chemicals you are using. Carefully read the label *twice* before taking anything from a bottle. Make sure you are using correct chemical and its concentration.
14. Excess reagents are **never** to be returned to stock bottles. Try to take only the amount needed for the lab. If you take too much, dispose of the excess.
15. Many common reagents, for example, alcohols and acetone, are highly flammable. **Do not use them anywhere near open flames.**
16. Always pour acids into water. If you pour water into acid, the heat of reaction will cause the water to explode into steam, sometimes violently, and the acid will splatter.
17. If chemicals come into contact with your skin or eyes, **flush immediately** with copious amounts of water and consult with your instructor.
18. Never point a test tube or any vessel that you are heating at yourself or your neighbor--it may erupt like a geyser.
19. Dispose of chemicals properly. Waste containers will be provided and their use will be explained by your teacher. Unless you are explicitly told otherwise, assume that only water may be put in the lab sinks.
20. Clean up all broken glassware immediately and dispose of the broken glass properly.
21. Never leave burners unattended. Turn them off whenever you leave your workstation. Be sure that the gas is shut off at the bench rack when you leave the lab.