

Academic Citizenship: Rules in the Classroom & Laboratory

Effective Spring Semester 2017

Section VI. Laboratory SAFETY RULES

A) Chemistry Laboratory Glove Use Policy

Authority: 29CFR1910.138(a) General Requirements: Employers shall select and require employees to use appropriate hand protection when employees' hands are exposed to hazards such as those from skin absorption of harmful substances; severe cuts or lacerations; severe abrasions; punctures; chemical burns; thermal burns; and harmful temperature extremes.

29CFR1910.138(b) Selection: Employers shall base the selection of the appropriate hand protection on an evaluation of the performance characteristics of the hand protection relative to the task(s) to be performed, conditions present, duration of use, and the hazards and potential hazards identified.

WNC Environmental Health and Safety: The Environmental Health and Safety Department is committed to work with the entire college community to provide proactive service and assistance in maintaining safe and healthy campuses and environmentally sound policies and practices [for employees as well as for students; <http://www.wnc.edu/policymanual/11-3-4.php#11-34Section7>].

Background: Most employees and/or students who wear gloves in a Chemistry laboratory setting do so as a substitute for proper hand hygiene. This improper use of gloves leads to contamination of the entire laboratory setting. There is no such thing as a universally safe glove for a user in a Chemical laboratory setting. The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance for the proper wear and use of gloves in a Chemistry Laboratory setting.

Scope: Gloves may be worn in the Chemistry laboratory setting when safety merits their use; gloves are not required for wear in the Chemistry lab setting on a routine basis.

Student Responsibility: It shall be the student's responsibility to know which glove (or gloves) is (are) appropriate for each individual experiment.

It shall be the student's responsibility to read and properly apply the [M]SDS Safety Information to the experiment.

It shall be the student's responsibility for purchasing proper gloves to use for each experimental procedure and per the [M]SDS.

34 It shall be the student's responsibility to follow this policy if s/he chooses to wear gloves or to
35 utilize proper Chemical laboratory hygiene (hand washing) if the student opts to not use gloves in
36 the Chemistry laboratory setting.

37 **Procedure:** If the student chooses to wear gloves in the Chemistry laboratory setting, the proper
38 gloves are to be worn for one use/task and discarded upon completion of that use/task.

39 The student may use the following rule regarding glove change: if s/he would wash
40 their hands before going on with the next step in the experiment, s/he is to remove
41 the gloves using the inside out method, discard the gloves and obtain a fresh set/pair
42 of gloves. Repeat as necessary to complete the experiment.

43 The utilization of multiple pairs of gloves in a single experiment will require that the student read
44 the experiment ahead of time and plan for the proper number of pairs and types of gloves utilized
45 during each experiment.

46 The utilization of multiple pairs of gloves will require the student to read the [M]SDS for each
47 chemical used in the experiment so as to ascertain the proper glove material for each step in the
48 experiment.

49 **Enforcement:** Failure of the student to comply with this policy shall result in the student exiting
50 the lab with a resultant zero for the day's experiment.

51 **B) General Comments**

52 Read your experiments prior to coming to lab.

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54 When you have completed your experiments, make certain to obtain Dr. Carman's initials on your
55 experiment – no initials, no grade.

56
57 Experiments are due as individually assigned in the Course Snapshot.

58
59 NO food (includes water, candy, chips, Chapstick, Lip Gloss, ad nauseum) in the lab.

60
61 Students enrolled in Dr. Carman's or your present lab instructor's lab classes need to bring a
62 padlock with them for every lab period (and take it with them after lab is over each day -- otherwise,
63 it will be cut off) to secure their belongings in lockers in the hall across from the lab. Please
64 remember that the lockers have limited space and that careful planning will assure you that your
65 belongings (coat, purse, books, water bottles, *ad nauseum*) will be secure, i.e., suitcase type book
66 bags will not fit in the lockers and are not permitted in the lab.

67
68 Fall 2006: The first theft out of the lockers occurred -- LOCK your locker! Fall 2008: The Second
69 theft occurred – LOCK your locker!

70
71 Long hair needs to be put up out of the way. However you do this is your responsibility.

72 Wash lab benches with disinfectant and paper towels before you start your experiments.
73
74 Wash your hands after you've washed your lab bench area.
75
76 With the exception of students coming to labs via DSS, there will be NO lab stools in the lab area:
77 they are fire/trip hazards.
78
79 Fire extinguishers are located in three places in the lab: by the shower, by the exit and on the lecture
80 desk. There is also one just inside to the right of the cadaver lab door.
81
82 A fire blanket is located in the red cabinet marked "Fire Blanket". Remember to stop, drop and
83 roll.
84
85 Eye wash stations are located at each sink in the lab as well as in the emergency shower.
86
87 If you spill a caustic chemical all over your clothes, you MUST immediately jump in the shower
88 and remove all clothing. There is now a curtain on this shower for your modesty and the water is
89 ice cold.
90
91 In the case of lab evacuation, all lab students will walk in an orderly fashion to the exit and leave
92 the building. Leave your personal belongings where they are.
93
94 The only items to be out on the lab benches, besides your necessary lab supplies, are your lab books
95 and pens and (colored pencils for sketching in BIOLOGY courses ONLY; #2 pencils MAY be
96 used to label test tubes in all lab courses as the test tubes are made for that purpose).
97
98 Anything that has to be entered in your lab experimental/data sheet[s] during your lab period
99 MUST be entered in INK! Sketches in biology lab experimental sheets may be entered in pencil
100 (colored if you wish). Failure to complete the necessary portions of your lab data sheet in ink on
101 the day of the experiment shall result in a grade of "0" for that day. You may not leave lab until
102 you have had your experimental data checked (signed) off by Dr. Carman or your present lab
103 instructor. Failure to have it checked off results in a "0" for the day's work.
104
105 It is the student's responsibility to have his or her experiments printed and with them for and during
106 each lab experiment. Failure to have done so will result in a zero (0) for the day's lab work.
107
108 Dispose of ALL waste as directed by Dr. Carman or your present lab instructor.
109
110 Wipe all spills – Dr. Carman or your present lab instructor cares NOT whose spills they are – clean
111 'em up!
112

113 Wipe off all bottles after use; replace lids and stoppers immediately after using them; do NOT hand
114 the bottles to your buddy without a lid or stopper: he or she is a grown up and can handle taking
115 them out/off.

116

117 Report ANY injury to Dr. Carman or your present lab instructor.

118

119 Sandals, open-toed shoes, clogs of any nature (including, and especially, croc's), open-heeled
120 shoes, Keen-type sandals, Mary-Jane's, fluffy slippers, flip-flops, basket-weave style shoes or
121 sandals are not allowed in the lab. Wear tennis shoes or boots or the like that will provide
122 continuous, wrap-around coverage of your feet. You will be sent home if you are not wearing
123 proper foot protection – if you live close enough, you may return to complete the experiment for
124 the day, otherwise, it's a "0" for the day.

125

126 The only exception to this is if you have an injury that requires you to wear a cast,
127 splint, brace or improper shoes due to injuries/wounds of the lower extremities -- a
128 Physician's, Nurse Practitioner's or Physician Assistant's statement is required (and
129 will require verification) if your injury is not obvious. You will be placed out of the
130 way in the lab to minimize normal lab traffic flow disruption.

131

132 See also **Injury** statement in previous section[s].

133

134 Rinse your glassware at the end of the day and put it back in the glassware cabinet.

135

136 Throw paper towels in the trash; turn off hot plates. Wipe off all metal utensils and equipment
137 you've used. Move no electronic equipment.

138

139 Wash your lab bench with disinfectant and paper towels when you've completed your lab
140 experiments.

141

142 Make no other plans during the time allotted for your experiments: 3 hours.

143

144 Wash your hands as you leave for the day, THEN pick up your items at the front of the lab as you
145 leave.

146

147 Wash your hands when leaving to take, or are returning from, a break.

148

149 Perform no unauthorized experiments.

150

151 If you're not sure, ask Dr. Carman.

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153

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