

## Student Laboratory Safety Agreement

The University of North Texas places utmost importance in maintaining a safe learning environment for students and employees. To prevent injury, damage, or other harm, all UNT students must follow the following laboratory safety rules at all times:

1. Never enter the laboratory unless your Teaching Assistant (TA) is present and has authorized entry into the laboratory. Accidents are more likely to occur when students are left unsupervised in the chemistry laboratory.
2. Do not start the experiment until you have been instructed to do so by your TA. You may need to receive specific safety instructions for the experiment from your TA, or they may need to provide additional information that will help you in performing the experiment well.
3. Familiarize yourself with the locations of all safety showers, eye wash stations, and fire exits in the laboratory. These locations are different for every laboratory room and sometimes the best option is not the most obvious location.
4. Cell phone usage in the laboratory is only allowed with TA approval.
5. Do not sit on the floors or benchtops in the laboratories.
6. Always wear eye protection when in the laboratory. Goggles must be worn if chemicals are involved. If chemicals are not involved, students must wear safety glasses with side shields. Even if you aren't working on the experiment someone else may be. If you refuse to wear your safety glasses or goggles, or forget to bring them, you will be ejected from lab and could receive no credit for that lab. Regular eye glasses do not provide proper protection from chemical spills. Safety glasses or goggles should only be removed when outside of the laboratory.
7. **Arrive at the laboratory dressed appropriately.** No bare skin may be exposed below the waist. Students may not wear clothing with rips or holes, or clothing with mesh areas. Students must wear socks and shoes that cover the entire foot, and are sturdy enough for standing in for 2-3 hours at a time. Open shoes and sandals are prohibited in the laboratory. This is for basic protection from chemical spills and glass breakage. Students are encouraged to wear clothing made from natural fibers, such as cotton, instead of synthetic fibers, such as polyester and spandex.
8. Students must wear a lab coat at all times inside of the lab. Lab coats will be provided at the beginning of each lab class by the TA. **Lab coats must be returned to the TA at the end of the lab.**
9. Nitrile gloves are to be worn, as directed by your TA. Although gloves may not be necessary in every case, wearing clean and uncontaminated gloves in the laboratory is always prudent. Gloves must be removed before exiting the laboratory.
10. Do not wear contact lenses in the laboratories. Contact lenses prevent the flushing of chemicals from the eye and absorb organic vapors from the air. Students should obtain a pair of prescription glasses for working in the laboratory. Students must notify the laboratory instructor/supervisor if they wear contact lenses.
11. Long hair must be tied back. Neckties, scarves, etc. must be removed before beginning an experiment. Headwraps or other religious dress must be safely secured.

12. Never eat, drink, or chew anything inside of the laboratory. If you must get a drink, it must be removed from the laboratory before consumption. Never open a drink container while wearing gloves. Remove gloves and wash hands thoroughly before opening a drink container.
13. Do not apply lip balm, lotion, or other cosmetics inside of the laboratory.
14. Horseplay and unauthorized experiments are forbidden in the laboratory. This includes unauthorized use of the laboratory computers.
15. Place all bags, coats, jackets, and other loose items in the shelves located at the front of the laboratory. The only items allowed on the laboratory benches are your laboratory manual, a calculator, and a pencil. Cluttered aisles and laboratory benches are dangerous.
16. Always clean your glassware and laboratory stations as directed by your TA before leaving the laboratory. Do not use soap when washing glassware! Glassware that is left unclean may contain chemicals that can react while in storage and cause major accidents.
17. Wash hands frequently when handling chemicals and before leaving the laboratory. Beware of chemicals on clothing, door knobs, frames, etc. Remove any gloves before leaving the laboratory.
18. Be aware that hot glassware, metal, or sand may look the same as cool glassware or metal. After heating a reaction, use appropriate means to transport hot metal or glassware as instructed by your TA. Before touching any surface with your hands, make sure that no heat is radiating from the reaction vessel by holding your hand approximately 2 cm from the surface. If you feel heat radiating off the surface of the reaction vessel, it is probably too hot to safely handle and you should allow it to cool before touching.
19. All chemicals should be poured or transferred below eye level to avoid splashing into the eyes. If chemicals do get into your eyes, wash thoroughly at an eye wash station for 10 to 15 minutes while holding your eyes open. Consult your TA and appropriate chemical safety data sheet for further care instructions.

***Violation of any of the above rules may result in immediate ejection from the laboratory with no opportunity for a make-up assignment.***

By signing your name below, you acknowledge that you have read the above laboratory safety rules and accept all responsibility for any violation of these rules.

Printed Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Student ID Number: \_\_\_\_\_