

Homework due Thursday, January 27

The point of mathematics and science is to communicate truth. To that end, practitioners need to agree about the meaning of the vocabulary we use and the numerical values we report. In Chem 101, we will all use the rules in **Introduction to Chemistry, a Foundation (ICF)**. Other classes may have different conventions that the instructor will communicate to you at the beginning of the course.

- (1) Read Introduction to Chemistry, a Foundation (ICF), sections 2.4 and 2.5.
- (2) Memorize the rules in ICF pages 24, 25 and 26 for counting, rounding and calculating with significant figures. Always take care to use the appropriate significant figures in all labs and homework in all of your scientific work. Do you understand them all?
- (3) Practice! There are some examples given in the text. Instead of just reading them, use these to make sure you understand: cover the solution with a piece of paper and solve the problems yourself. Then check yourself against the solution, or peek at the solution if you get stuck.
- (4) Is something confusing? Make a note to 1) spend more time thinking and reading about it as soon as possible, 2) do an internet search on the concepts you are studying, 3) ask your peers what they understand, 4) visit the SAS Center for tutoring (see www.cnsm.csulb.edu/depts/sas/other_services.htm), or 5) come up with particular questions to ask your professors.