GHS stands for the Globally Harmonized System of classification and labeling of chemicals. It is an international hazard markings system adopted by OSHA in 2013, effective employer date of 2016. GHS is used internationally in countries including: Canada, China, Australia, and the European Union. The system is meant to improve the communication of chemical hazards within the workplace lowering potential confusions leading to injury. GHS uses classifications through specific pictograms and accompanying information to differentiate hazards. GHS’s information can be found within safety data sheets (SDS). It is important to remember nearly all jobs at the university come into contact with chemicals of various degrees of hazard. Knowing the type of chemical hazard you are handling is important in properly preparing before beginning work. To the right are some main examples of health and physical hazard pictograms within the system. For a full list visit osha.oregon.gov.

EXAMPLE UO ENVIRONMENTS:
- Art studios
- Custodial areas
- Food service areas
- Laboratories
- Mechanical shops
- Trash handling
- Woodshops
- Zero waste facilities

WHAT TO DO!
- Complete GHS training with your supervisor and review SDS (safety data sheet) of materials prior to work.
- If unsure of a label’s meaning, ask your supervisor.
- Visit osha.oregon.gov to view the interactive GHS app.
- Always wear required PPE!
- In the event of a chemical spill call EHS (541-346-3192)!
- In an emergency, call 911 and UOPD (541-346-2919) for immediate assistance

*Does not act in place of official training. Contact EHS. Updated: 09/19