

CHEM 223 Organic Chemistry A
Spring 2015
Course Syllabus

Instructor: Mark Aparece
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Office: Flanner Hall 200A
Office Hours: MW 12:30-2:00pm
 Also by prior appointment

Lecture: Section 001 MWF 2:45-3:35pm Flanner Hall Auditorium 133

Discussion: Section 002 F 10:25-11:15am Flanner Hall 105
 Section 003 F 11:30am-12:20pm Flanner Hall 105
 Section 004 F 1:40-2:30pm Flanner Hall 105

Textbook and Materials

Required:

Organic Chemistry (8th edition or older) by L. G. Wade, Jr.

Recommended:

Study Guide and Solutions Manual (8th edition or older) by Wade and Simek

Molecular modeling kit

Colored pens/pencils (I use lots of colors in lecture)

Optional:

Organic Chemistry as a Second Language: First Semester Topics (3rd edition) by David Klein**Course Overview**

This course is the first in a yearlong two semester sequence of organic chemistry covering the structure, properties, and reactivity of aliphatic and alkenic molecules. Specific topics include bonding, nomenclature, conformational analysis, reaction mechanisms, multi-step synthesis, and spectroscopy (MS, IR, and ¹H and ¹³C NMR).

For success in this course, it is important to review your notes, read the textbook, and work on homework problems **every day**. **DO NOT FALL BEHIND.** Learning organic chemistry is very much like learning a language, a sport, or a musical instrument: daily practice and immersion are required to master the concepts taught in this course. Memorization **does not work**, nor does cramming the night before an exam. Deeper understanding by recognizing underlying patterns is better than rote memorization, and this is especially true in a class like organic chemistry. **DO NOT FALL BEHIND.**

Grading

Exam 1	Friday, February 13, 2015	20%
Exam 2	Monday, March 16, 2015	20%
Exam 3	Monday, April 13, 2015	20%
Final Exam	Friday, May 1, 2015	30%
Quizzes (Best 5 out of 7)	See tentative schedule	10%
		100%

Numerical scores will be converted to letter grades by the following:

93-100%	A	70-75%	C+
90-93%	A-	60-70%	C
85-90%	B+	55-60%	C-
80-85%	B	50-55%	D+
75-80%	B-	45-50%	D
		<45%	F

Exams

There will be three in-term exams each worth 20% of your overall grade as well as a cumulative final exam worth 30%. There are **no make-up exams**. Under no circumstances may an exam be taken at a time and date other than that assigned. **Unexcused absences** (alarm didn't go off, overslept, missed the bus, etc.) will warrant a "zero" on that exam. **Excused absences** (a death in the family, sickness, university-sponsored athletic events, etc.) require appropriate documentation and will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.

Quizzes

Seven (7) quizzes will be administered during discussion sections on the Fridays indicated on the tentative schedule below, but only the best five (5) quizzes will count toward 10% of your overall grade. Because your two lowest quiz scores will be dropped, there are **no make-up quizzes**.

Re-grade Policy

In the event of a grade challenge, only exams and quizzes **completely done in pen** will be eligible for a re-grade. No assignments done in pencil—even partially—are eligible for a re-grade. This policy excludes other errors such as those made by me (e.g., tallying up points).

Homework

As incentive for you to do the practice problems for each chapter, you have the opportunity to earn **five extra credit points** on each exam if you do the following:

- Exam 1 (Chapters 1-5): At least **15 problems** per chapter (**75 problems total**)
- Exam 2 (Chapters 6-8): Do at least **20 problems** per chapter (**60 problems total**)
- Exam 3 (Chapters 9-11): Do at least **20 problems** per chapter (**60 problems total**)
- Final Exam (Chapters 12-14): Do at least **15 problems** per chapter (**45 problems total**)

On the day of the exam, turn in your homework in an **organized stapled packet** or in a **bound notebook with the relevant pages clearly flagged**. Do not make me hunt for your homework problems. Do your homework every day. Do not wait until the last minute. These extra credit points are only based on completion, not accuracy; thus you are encouraged to work together in study groups.

You are also encouraged to do **more** than the minimum required homework problems—in fact, you are encouraged to do **all** of them—though this will not earn you more extra credit points. However, students who do more homework problems tend to do better on exams and in the class in general than students who do the bare minimum.

Tentative Schedule

Week	Day	Date	Chapter	Topics
1	M	1/12	1	Introduction and review: Lewis structures, bonding, resonance, acid-base conjugates.
	W	1/14		
	F	1/16		
2	M	1/19	Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday. No class.	
	W	1/21	2	Structure and properties: molecular orbital (MO) theory, hybridization, isomerism, functional groups.
	F	1/23		
3	M	1/26*	3	Alkanes and cycloalkanes: nomenclature, conformational analysis, Newman projections, stereochemistry, chair conformations.
	W	1/28		
	F	1/30		
4	M	2/2	4	Reaction energetics: thermodynamics, kinetics, free radical halogenation.
	W	2/4		
	F	2/6*	5	Chirality: <i>R</i> & <i>S</i> , enantiomers, diastereomers, racemic mixtures, enantiomeric excess (ee), meso compounds.
M	2/9			
5	W	2/11	Exam 1 (Chapters 1-5)	
	F	2/13		
6	M	2/16	6	Alkyl halides: nomenclature, structure, properties, synthesis, nucleophilic substitution, and β -elimination.
	W	2/18		
	F	2/20		
7	M	2/23	7	Alkenes: nomenclature, structure, <i>cis-trans</i> isomerism, properties, and synthesis.
	W	2/25		
	F	2/27*		
8	M	3/2	Spring Break. No class.	
	W	3/4		
	F	3/6		
9	M	3/9	8	Alkenes: reactions.
	W	3/11		
	F	3/13*		
10	M	3/16	Exam 2 (Chapters 6-8)	
	W	3/18	9	Alkynes: nomenclature, structure, properties, synthesis, and reactions. Introduction to multi-step synthesis.
	F	3/20		
11	M	3/23†	10	Alcohols: nomenclature, structure, properties, and synthesis.
	W	3/25		
	F	3/27*	11	Alcohols: reactions.
M	3/30			
12	W	4/1	Good Friday. No class.	
	F	4/3		

*Quizzes administered during discussion sections

†Last day to withdraw with a grade of "W"

Tentative Schedule, cont.

13	M	4/6	Easter Monday. No class.	
	W	4/8	12	Mass spectrometry (MS) and infrared (IR) spectroscopy.
	F	4/10*		
14	M	4/13	Exam 3 (Chapters 9-11)	
	W	4/15	13	Proton and carbon nuclear magnetic resonance (¹ H and ¹³ C NMR) spectroscopy.
	F	4/17		
15	M	4/20	14	Ethers and epoxides: nomenclature, structures, properties, synthesis, and reactions.
	W	4/22		
	F	4/24*		
Finals	F	5/1	Cumulative Final Exam (4:15-6:15pm)	

*Quizzes administered during discussion sections

Services for Students with Disabilities (SSWD)

If you require special accommodations through the university's Services for Students with Disabilities (SSWD) program, please inform me as soon as possible, preferably during the first week of the course.

Academic Integrity

All submitted work must represent your own work and your own work only. Any student caught cheating in any way will receive a "zero" for that assignment and be reported to the chairperson of the Chemistry Department, the chairperson of the student's department, and the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. Furthermore, the incident may be documented in the student's university record and may result in dismissal from the university. For further information regarding the Academic Integrity policy and disciplinary procedures, refer to the LUC Undergraduate Handbook on policies or the CAS website: http://www.luc.edu/cas/pdfs/CAS_Academic_Integrity_Statement_December_07.pdf

Student Conduct

Students are expected to behave in a civil and professional manner. Turn off or silence cell phones during class. If you must talk on your phone, step outside. Anyone who is repeatedly disruptive during class will be asked to leave as a courtesy to other students.

Instructor Privileges

I reserve the right to make changes and adjustments to this syllabus as necessary, including, but not limited to, the grading policy and course schedule.