

CHEM 341: Introductory Organic Chemistry

Contact Information

Matt (Doc) Bowman
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Chemistry 5232
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Lectures

MWF 11:00-11:50 AM
Room: Psychology 113

Office Hours

Scheduled
MW 9:00-10:00 AM Noland 553
MW Noon – 1:00 PM Chamberlin 2116
(or by appointment)

Teaching Assistants

HongNgoc Pham	hpham@chem.wisc.edu
Floriana Foarta	ffoarta@chem.wisc.edu
Ryan Van Hoveln	rvanhoveln@chem.wisc.edu

Textbook

Essentials of Organic Chemistry by Dewick

The following textbooks are also available in the chemistry library on reserve:

Organic Chemistry: A Short Course by Hart, Craine, Hart and Hadid
Introduction to Organic Chemistry by Brown and Poon
Fundamentals of Organic Chemistry by McMurry
Essential Organic Chemistry by Bruice

There will be no problems assigned from the textbook.

Discussion Sections

All of your grades will be determined by the exam scores. As such, there are not extra points awarded from attendance in the discussion sections or the lecture. With that said, if you miss lecture or your discussion section, it is very likely that you will have poor results come exam time. There is a lot of material to cover, and little time to cover it. Sometimes, what I can briefly cover in the lecture will be better covered in your discussion section.

In addition, the TAs in this course have a lot of experience in teaching organic chemistry. They have both taught with me in the past and with other lecturers. They may have a different way of looking at a topic. As a result, if you do not understand something from me, you may understand it from them. All discussion sections are held in the chemistry building.

Section 1	Tuesdays	3:30-4:20	B351	Hongngoc Pham
Section 2	Tuesdays	4:35-5:25	B351	Hongngoc Pham
Section 3	Mondays	3:30-4:20	B355	Hongngoc Pham
Section 4	Mondays	4:35-5:25	B355	Hongngoc Pham
Section 5	Tuesdays	3:30-4:20	B355	Floriana Foarta
Section 7	Mondays	3:30-4:20	B357	Floriana Foarta
Section 8	Tuesdays	3:30-4:20	2385	Ryan Van Hoveln

Discussion sections on exam days and the day immediately after exams are cancelled. Instead, Help Centers will be organized that are focused on specific topics.

Problem sets and practice exams

There will be a problem set for each lecture day except for the day of an exam or the day preceding an exam. These problem sets will not be graded and are there to help you out. Keys will be available by the next lecture day on Learn@UW.

I will make *at least* three practice exams available for each exam. The exams will be very similar to the practice exams in terms of directions. Answer keys for these exams will also be available.

Grading

There are four exams plus the final exam. Each exam will be worth 100 points, with the final exam worth 200 points for a grand total of 600 points. The exams will be evening exams from 7:20 to 8:50 pm.

ABCDF SIMPLY STATED

If you earn 90% of the total points, you will receive an A.

If you earn 75% of the total points, you will receive *at least* a B.

If you earn 57% of the total points, you will receive *at least* a C.

If you earn 40% of the total points, you will receive *at least* a D.

Exam regrade policy: Mistakes in exam grading will occasionally be made. You will have one week after receiving the exam to submit the entire exam for regrading. Keep in mind, since mistakes may or may not be in your favor, the exam grade can actually be lowered. All decisions on the regrades are final.

Regrade submittal procedure: Email Matt Bowman that you are submitting an exam for a regrade. Write on the exam score sheet which problem needs to be regraded and why. Place the exam in Matt Bowman's mailbox in Chemistry 1146.

Academic Misconduct

You are all adults. There is no reason to cheat, but plenty of reasons not to. An **F** in the course is one of many reasons. Cheat sheets, notes, textbooks, someone else's paper, iPods, cell phones, a crystal ball bearing the disembodied spirit of the Great Organic Chemist R. B. Woodward, etc... are prohibited from the exam. Use of these prohibited materials during an exam will result in a zero for the exam score. You will only be allowed pencils/pens and model kits for the exams.

A percentage of the exams will be photocopied. Should an answer be changed and submitted for a regrading, academic misconduct has occurred and the perpetrator will receive an F in the course and be reported to the Dean's office.

I have been advised by the staff (some of them legal staff) that I cannot use pepper spray in dealing with wandering eyes. I will try to remember to remind the TAs proctoring the exams of that advice. If the TAs suspect anyone of this condition, they will announce for everyone to keep their eyes on their paper. If the problem persists, the TAs have the discretionary power to move any student suspected during an exam. Exams of adjacent students will be examined, and should there be ample evidence, lower exam scores including zeroes will be given to the perpetrator. Please fight against wandering eyes. Please shield your paper the best you can to remove any temptation from others.

Philosophy

This is your education. It is what you make of it. Should at anytime you feel that I am going too fast, let me or your TA know. If you do not understand a concept, let me or your TA know ASAP. I've done my best to pick a set of organic topics that are interconnected, build on one another, and represent the basics of organic chemistry that are useful/fun to know regardless of major. If you do not understand a topic, it will continually haunt you through out the course, as the entire course is cumulative.

Organic chemistry has been compared to a science, an art, even a foreign language. It is pretty much all of those. In order to succeed in this course, you will need patience, vigilance, and imagination. There are three interlaced components to Chem 341: Structure, Mechanism, and Synthesis.

- Structure:* What does a compound look like? Is it happy?
requires imagination
- Mechanism:* How and why does a molecule do what it does?
requires pattern recognition
- Synthesis:* Can we get molecules to work together to form a new molecule (preferably of our choosing)?
requires strategy

Study tips

Between 1-4 hours after each lecture, start the problem set.
Between 4-8 hours after each lecture, recopy your notes for that lecture. Look for the patterns.

In the course schedule, the relevant page numbers from the text are listed. The exams are going to be based on the material from the lectures, lecture notes, problem sets, and discussions. The text is there to help you understand the material. I strongly suggest that you read the relevant pages either before or after lecture.

Make flash cards. Carry these with you wherever you go. Flip through them throughout each day.

The best way to understand organic chemistry is constant practice. The TA's and I will do our best to provide quite a bit of practice in the form of problem sets and practice exams. Should you find a discrepancy in what the TA's, book, internet, or myself say, please bring it to our attention immediately. It may be a case of a subtlety, an outright error, or an over generalization. Regardless, we'll try to explain the discrepancy.

Additional Help

In addition to the TA's and office hours, there are a couple of places where you can find assistance.

The Organic TA Office is in room B317. There is a schedule posted outside the door of various TA's and when they will be available to help you. Feel free to ask any of them for help even if they are not a TA for Chem 341.

Alpha Chi Sigma Chemistry Fraternity has offered tutoring for chemistry classes in the past. Please contact them about their current help sessions.

GUTS offers tutors as well. They can be contacted at:
Student Activity Center
Office #4413
333 E Campus Mall
Madison, WI 53715-1380
Phone: 608-263-5666
E-mail: guts@rso.wisc.edu

There are also private tutors available. The General Chemistry Office (Room 1328) has a list of tutors and prices. If you do work with a tutor, please let them know that I post notes, problem sets, practice exams, and tutorials on Learn@UW. Anyone can access the Learn@UW Chem 341 site by using the visitor login. They should go to learnuw.wisc.edu and click on visitor login. The login to use is orgchem.pseudo and the password is orgchem.pseudo They will be able to access any handouts using that login.

A very good way to study is to study in groups. Multiple problem sets will be available to work on along with several practice exams.

Chem 341: Survey

Please answer the following questions so I can adapt Chem 341 to better suit your needs. Please turn this page in to Matt Bowman's mailbox in Chemistry 1146 by September 7.

What is your year? (Freshman, Grad Student, Returning Adult, etc...)

What is your major?

What do you hope to get out of this class? (Besides a good grade)

Have you purchased an iclicker (for another class)?

Do you learn a lot from textbooks?