

Organic Chemistry  
Chemistry 141A  
Fall 2017

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Welcome to Organic Chemistry. The reactions and structures you learn throughout this semester are cumulative and will be applied to discussions later in the semester and into the spring.

**AIMS:** At the end of this course (and Chem142) a successful student will have developed skills and knowledge that allow them to answer the following questions:-

*I:- Recognize the atoms and bonding present in common functional groups, their resultant chemical properties and likely reactions.*

*II:- Be able to create rational curved-arrow mechanisms to predict the likely products of reactions.*

Students that can combine these skills will be most successful, as this skillset will allow them to communicate with scientists in many other fields.

**LECTURES:** 10:50AM-11:40AM Mon/Wed/Fri Marsh Life Sciences 235

**OFFICE HOURS:** 1:30PM- 2:30PM, Mon/Wed/Thur, or by appt.

**WEDNESDAY EVENING REVIEW:** Each Friday I will post a few problems to be discussed at the following Wednesday Evening Review. This is a perfect opportunity to practice problems and work through some of the tricky points in regards to the new concepts. These questions are not graded but many students find these review sessions very helpful. I usually bring donuts/cookies and “organic” fruit for volunteers!! The atmosphere is a little less formal and more conversational 6:40pm~7:40pm (approx. 1hr) Marsh Life Sciences.

**WEEKLY HOMEWORK:** I will be using Sapling Learning for weekly graded quizzes associated with the lectures. These must be completed by 11:55pm on Sunday of week posted for credit. The first quiz is due Sunday September 10<sup>th</sup>.

The schedule is posted on Blackboard.

\$30 for lecture. Sign-up on [saplinglearning.com](http://saplinglearning.com)

**LAB:** Labs start the week of September 11<sup>th</sup>. Logistics to be discussed next week.

We will use BLACKBOARD for graded lab prelab and postlab quizzes.

**EXAMS:** **EXAM 1** Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September, 6:40-9:40PM

**EXAM 2** Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> October, 6:40-9:40PM

**EXAM 3** Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November, 6:40-9:40PM

Locations by last name:- **A-L** = MLS 235, **M-Z** = Given E-131, Carpenter Auditorium

Any conflicts with an exam date or time must be resolved a week in advance. Alternate exam times must be prior to scheduled exam time, no late exams, no exceptions.

ACCESS students will be able to use the EPC for their exams.

**FINAL EXAM Friday 15<sup>th</sup> Dec. 10:30AM-1:15PM, Marsh Life Sciences 235**

**COURSE GRADE:** The course grade will be based on three mid-semester exams and a compulsory, cumulative final exam. Of the three mid-terms the lowest grade will be dropped. No curves are applied to the mid-semester exams and the class average for the exams may vary depending on the complexity of the material. Try your best on all the exams. Attendance at an exam is not required and zero can be considered as your lowest grade. The final exam grade will not be dropped.

Each mid-semester exam will constitute 20% of your grade, the Final will constitute 25%, providing 65% of your course grade. The lab component of the course will deliver 25%. The final 10% will come from the Sapling Learning online homework.

3 exams (best two mid-terms (20% each) and the final (25%))	65%
Lab grade	25%
Sapling Learning weekly graded homework	<u>10%</u>
	100%

**REQUIRED SUPPLIES:-** “*Organic Chemistry*”, Klein, 3rd edition, Wiley  
“*Organic Chemistry*”, Study guide by same author  
e-Book available from vitalsource.com (\$135)  
Online Access to Sapling Learning (lecture quizzes \$30)  
Lab Notebook and SAFETY GLASSES

**RECOMMENDED:-** “*Organic Chemistry I*” As a Second Language, Klein, any edition  
Molecular Structure Model Kit, HGS

**COURSE ETIQUETTE:**

Organic chemistry has a scary reputation. It is best thought of as a new language or skill. As with any skill some people can become adept faster than others. All of you are capable of successfully completing this course with the right attitude and determination.

Recommendations:-

1. Attend class with a clear and inquisitive attitude.
2. While in class FOCUS on understanding the material. Do NOT text, check Facebook or emails. This is a waste of your time, money, disrespectful to me and the other students around you who are trying to learn. I know everyone gets distracted at times.
3. After class review the material, read the sections in the textbook. Try the recommended problems, work on the weekly problemset for Wednesday, and finish the weekly graded online problems for Sunday.
4. Speak respectfully to your fellow students, your TA and me. All the challenges presented to you are designed to encourage you to learn this valuable material.
5. Try to find answers to your own problems by checking the course syllabus, lab logistics or Blackboard. Then, if you still don't find the answer, after looking, check in with me or your TA. “Would you stand in-line to have this question answered?”
6. All course materials (both yours and mine) are protected by copyright. I cannot copy or post your written material and you cannot post any course materials such as blanks of the exam, reviews or notes online. Lectures may not be recorded without permission.
7. All students are expected to honor the UVM codes of conduct and academic integrity.
8. Post-bac premed students: do NOT solicit letters of recommendation. I will make offers as merited.
9. Work hard and have fun!! A.W.