

Organic Chemistry
Chemistry 141
Fall 2021

Alexander (Sandy) Wurthmann
Office: E335 Innovation
Alexander.Wurthmann@uvm.edu

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.

INCLUSION STATEMENT: It is my intent to create a learning environment within which everyone is treated respectfully and has a fair opportunity to succeed. In line with that, I intend to enthusiastically welcome you all; wherever you are from, who you are, what you look like or what your beliefs are.

Organic chemistry is challenging. And yet, I think we can approach it with a fun, open mindset. I will probably laugh at some of my own mistakes and/or the challenges of being a human. However, I will not tolerate behavior or communications that marginalize anyone. We are here to work together to learn chemistry to solve problems and better understand the world around us.

LECTURES: Section A 10:50-11:40AM Mon/Wed/Fri Innovation E102
Section B 3:30PM-4:45PM Mon/Wed Innovation E102
Section C 2:50PM-4:05PM Tue/Thu Innovation E102

OFFICE HOURS: 1:30PM- 2:30PM, Mon/Thurs/Fri, or by appt.

THURSDAY EVENING REVIEW: Each Friday I will post a few problems to be discussed at the following Thursday Evening Review. 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 6PM~7PM (approx. 1hr) Innovation E102.

WEEKLY HOMEWORK: Building confidence and understanding of organic chemistry takes practice. The weekly graded homeworks are designed to help with the cumulative habit of a studying consistently throughout the semester. We will be using **WileyPlus** for weekly quizzes. There will be two quizzes each week; one for practice (ungraded) and one graded. The graded quizzes must be completed by 11:55pm on Sunday of week posted for credit. The first quiz is due Sunday September 11th. No late quizzes for any reason. The purpose is to keep up-to-date with the topics discussed.

LAB: Labs start the week of September 13th. Logistics to be discussed next week.
We will use your lab’s Blackboard page for graded lab prelab and postlab quizzes.

EXAMS: **EXAM 1** Thursday 30th September, 6-8PM
 EXAM 2 Thursday 28th October, 6-8PM
 EXAM 3 Thursday 18th November, 6-8PM

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 **Section A 17th Dec. 10:30AM Innovation E102**
 Section B 14th Dec. 4:30PM Innovation E102
 Section C 16th Dec. 1:30PM Innovation E102

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 WileyPlus online homework.

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

REQUIRED SUPPLIES:-

“*Organic Chemistry*”, Klein, 4th edition, Wiley

“*Organic Chemistry*”, Study guide by Klein (e-Book available form vitalsource.com)

Online Access to WileyPlus

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. Try to reengage as quickly as possible.
3. After class review the material, read the sections in the textbook. Try the recommended problems, complete the graded online problems early so you can ask questions should you have any.
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 useful 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. Changes to the course may occur. As much notice, as possible, will be provided if changes are required.
10. Work hard and have fun!! A.W.