Fall 2016
Organic Chemistry I
CHEM 272
Syllabus

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The following materials are required:
Textbook and solutions manual:
G. Marc LOUDON & Jim Parise “Organic Chemistry” 6\textsuperscript{th} edition, Roberts & Company Publishers (earlier editions are ok, but I will make reference to problems in the 6th edition and you have to figure out what a given problem number in the 6th edition corresponds to which problem number in the earlier edition)
Optional: Molecular models (2 or 3 students can split one set to save $)

What OChem I is all about: We will study the 3-dimensional shape of molecules and learn how this shape influences the reactions that molecules undergo, both in a test tube or in a biological system. We will look at the electron distribution within molecules and learn how this influences chemical reactions. This will allow us to derive some principles and you will be asked on exams to apply these principles to something that you have not seen before.

Recitation Sections We will have weekly recitation sections in groups of up to 25 students. These sections will be led by fellow undergraduate students who have taken the class in the past and did very well. Consider these students to be a resource and a role model for you.

Each recitation section will consist of three parts:
- group work on a worksheet with questions relating to material covered in the previous week,
- a quiz covering concepts discussed in lecture the previous week,
- a discussion session with your TA on how to solve the problems in the worksheet and any questions you may have.
The attendance of these discussion sections is voluntary but strongly suggested.

Office Hour, Fourth Hour and Learning Emporium: I will be spending a fair amount of time in the Learning Emporium (Bilger Addition 208) after lecture and during lunch break, so you can catch me there if you need help. The tutors will also be there to provide help.

Starting in Week 2, once a week I will hold public office hour in a classroom to be announced. Everybody is welcome to attend, to bring their questions and solutions for discussion. These Fourth Hours will be held on Saturday mornings. This may not be convenient for you. It is not for me either. However, I have a very full schedule during the week and this semester I cannot afford to carve out an hour during the week.

You can make an appointment to see me in my office. Talk to me before or after lecture to set this up. You also can try your luck with walk-in, but I make no promise that I can help you right then even when I am in my office (there are a few things other than teaching OChem that fill my days, some are time sensitive).

Hour Exams and Final Exam: There will be three Hour Exams at roughly 1-month intervals covering about three chapters’ worth of material and a cumulative Final Exam (see attached schedule). There will be NO MAKE-UP EXAMS! And, no, not for you either! It is your job to schedule yourself that you can be in attendance for each one or you should drop the course right now. A missed Hour Exam will be scored as ZERO, a missed Final Exam will result in a course grade of "F".

The Final Exam will be held on the day listed in the University Calendar, not earlier, not later.

Grading standards: The Final Grade will be assigned on the basis of the following formula:

Hour Exams \( 3 \times 100 \text{ pts. each} = 300 \text{ pts.} = 50\% \text{ of final grade} \)
Cumulative Final exam \( = 200 \text{ pts.} = 50\% \text{ of final grade} \)
Approximate grade cutoffs: no stricter than $>85\% = A(\pm)$, $> 65\% = B(\pm)$, $> 50\% = C(\pm)$, $> 40\% = D(\pm)$. +/- modifiers will be added for scores within approximately 3% of the eventual grade cutoffs.

A final grade of “C, not C-“ in CHEM 272 is required for admission to CHEM 273.