

Course Syllabus for Organic Chemistry CHE 201/203

Lecture:	TTh 9:30 am - 10:50 am	NSC 225 (Section B)	
	TTh 6:30 pm- 7:50 pm	NSC 225 (Section C)	
Instructor:	Prof. Bing Gong	NSC 811	Phone: 645-6800 x 2243
		Email: bgong@buffalo.edu	
Office Hours:	TTh 11:00-12:00 am; other time by e-mail appointment		
Text:	<i>Organic Chemistry</i> , 6 th Edition by Wade		
Additional required course materials:	Solutions manual for problems in Wade Molecular model kit		

Material coverage Chapters 1 - 11 in Wade.

A Tentative Schedule:

Aug. 28, 30	Chapter 1
Sept. 4, 6	Chapter 2
Sept. 11, 18	Chapter 3 [Sept. 13: class cancelled (Rosh Hashanah)]
Sept. 20, 25	Chapter 4
Sept. 27	Chapter 5
Sept. 28	Exam-1 (Ch 1-4)
Oct. 2, 4	Chapter 5
Oct. 9, 11, 16	Chapter 6
Oct. 18, 23, 25	Chapter 7
Oct. 30, Nov. 1	Chapter 8
Nov. 2	Exam-2 (Ch 5-7)
Nov. 6, 8	Chapter 8
Nov. 13, 15	Chapter 9
Nov. 20, 27	Chapter 10
Nov. 29	Chapter 11
Nov. 30	Exam-3 (Ch 8-10)
Dec. 4, 6	Chapter 11
Dec 10-17	Final exam (Specific date to be assigned by Univ.)

General Considerations: Lectures will closely follow the text, but will emphasize certain topics while skipping some others. **Course-related materials and announcements will be posted on UBLearns (<http://ublearns.buffalo.edu/>).** I will NOT reply e-mails seeking information/answers that are already posted on UBLearns. **It is very important for you to attend the class** since in class, there will be extensive discussion on concepts, mechanisms of reactions, emphasis on important concepts and sections, and problem-solving that are not possible to be presented in your textbook or the posted materials. Many problems given in the exams will be related to those covered in class. Please seek as much help as possible from your TA during their office hours. If you feel you can not get satisfactory help from your TAs, make an appointment with me by e-mail. I will not necessarily be available everyday but will help you as much as possible. Some generally useful strategies that help to improve your performance are summarized below.

- Read the chapter material before the lecture.
- Study everyday, do reviews weekly.
- Form a study group with friends; if you can explain a concept to your study mate, you understand it.
- Do not fall behind in your study; it is virtually impossible to prepare well for the exam in just a few days before it.
- Rewriting your notes in more organized way the same day.
- Practicing problems, not only the ones that have been assigned but other problems in the book.
- Solve the problems again and again for better understanding.
- Come and see the TAs or myself if you are stuck on a problem.

Problem Sets: Homework problems from the textbook will be suggested regularly. Unlike many other classes, you cannot simply memorize the material the night before a test and expect to do well in this class. Organic chemistry is extremely problem-solving oriented. To do well in this class you must become comfortable with working problems and proficient at logically applying learned concepts to new situations. The problem solving and critical thinking skills that you develop in this class will serve you well regardless of your field of study.

In order to do well in this course it is absolutely imperative that the majority of your study time be spent working on problems. Problems should be worked faithfully on a daily basis, and working lots and lots of practice problems is the surest way to improve your grade. Merely scanning the answers to the textbook problems provided in the study guide serves no useful purpose. Do not become too dependent on the study guide; it is much more difficult to work a problem than it is to convince yourself that the solution before your eyes is the correct one. When you get stumped on a problem, review the relative sections of the text and your notes before looking up the answer in the study guide.

The more problems you work on, the easier applying these principles to new situations will become. This is what you will be required to do on the tests, so it behoves you to work as many problems as you can.

Examinations: Please note that the midterm examinations for this class have been scheduled for the evening. Information about these exams and copies of old exams will be posted on the UBLearn site. (1) Exams will be in descriptive and multiple choice formats. (2) Questions will predominantly come *directly* from lecture and/or the reading/problems; (3) **All tests are to be done in ink. Tests taken in pencil will not be regraded.** (4) **A photo ID will be checked during each of the exam.** (5) Exam regrades must be submitted directly to me within a week after the exams are returned to you. No exams will be regraded after this time period. If you want to have your exam regraded, return it to me (or via a TA) along with a dated note clearly explaining the nature of the error(s) in grading.

If you want your grade to be assigned on an S/U basis, then you must file the appropriate form. You may drop the course by August 31 (without financial penalty) or September 7 (with 30% tuition penalty and a 100% fees penalty) at the Registrar's office. You may resign (with a 50% - 100% tuition penalty) the course from the beginning of the third week (September 8) of classes until the end of the 11th week (November 9). See <http://src.buffalo.edu/register/resigncourse.shtml> for details on dropping/resigning courses.

Missed Examinations: Students with an excused absence from a midterm examination MAY be given the opportunity to take a make-up exam which will NOT be the same as the regular exam. In order to be eligible for taking the make-up exam, the student must provide a clear, convincing document within 48 hours of the midterm exam. The document must be in conformance with the University guidelines for excused absences. Failing to provide the document will disqualify one from taking the make-up exam and will lead to a score of zero for that specific exam. The make-up exam will be administered for those who qualify within two weeks after the regular exam, mostly likely on a weekend.

Cheating: Cheating is an insidious practice. Your grade is assigned by measuring your performance against the average performance of others in this class. Cheating raises the class average for the benefit of those who cheat, and to the detriment of honest students. In order to minimize cheating, examinations will be photocopied at random to prevent alterations of incorrect answers; and, the proctors will be asked to watch closely for roving eyes. **You will also be asked to show your photo ID when you turn in your exam.** Cheaters who are caught in the act will receive the maximum penalty allowed by University policy.

Grading Scheme: The letter grade will be determined from the results of three midterm examinations, the final examination and laboratory work. There will be a total of 1000 points for the course.

Three midterm exams for	450 pts (150 pts each)
One final exam for	300 pts
<u>Lab grade (recitation/lab)</u>	<u>250 pts</u>
Total:	1000 pts

The distribution of test scores and the approximate cutoff points for letter grades will generally be posted on the UBLearn web site several days after the examination.

Laboratory: The lab is administered by Dr. William Koehn (NSC 317, 645 6800 ext. 2075; wpkoehn@acsu.buffalo.edu). All logistical questions relating to the lab should be directed to Dr. Koehn or your lab instructor (TA).

Courtesy: Please be considerate of others during lecture. Please do not disturb your classmates by loud talking, noises or strange behavior. Please switch cell phones off and under no circumstances should you use your telephone in lecture, even if you're in the back row!