

CHEM V21: Introduction to Organic and Biochemistry

Fall 2014

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Class Meetings: MW at 3:30-4:45pm in SCI-221

Office Hours: MW 9-10:30am, TR 7:30-8am, 11am-12pm, or by appointment

Please feel free to stop by my office at any time as I am more than happy to help whenever I can. Let me know if you wish to set up an appointment for additional help. I am also very available via e-mail and iMessage even during off hours, so please contact me whenever you have questions or concerns!

Free peer tutoring is available at the LRC.

Required Materials: *Chemistry for Today*, 8th ed. by Seager & Slabaugh (copy on reserve in the library)
Scientific Calculator, non-programmable (by the end of the first week of class)

Prerequisites: CHEM V01A/V01AL or CHEM V20/V20L or high school chemistry with a C or better

Who should take this class? This course is designed as an introduction to and overview of the fields of organic chemistry and biochemistry. It is assumed that students have taken and are familiar with the general chemical, algebraic, and mathematic concepts presented in the equivalent of the Chem20 course. This course, and its material, is extremely demanding. You need to attend every class and should plan on spending at least 10-12 hours per week outside of lecture to stay on task with the material – the equivalent of having a part-time job. Your level of success in this course is directly proportional to the amount of time and effort you invest. I want to help you, but you must make the first step by committing yourself to succeed!

By the end of this course you should be able to:

- 1.) Solve organic and biochemistry problems by applying the scientific method including developing hypotheses, hypotheses testing, and evaluation.
- 2.) Know the IUPAC names and the structures of alkanes, alkenes, alkynes, alcohols, esters, thiols, benzene, and aromatic compounds, amines, aldehydes, ketones, carboxylic acids, esters, amides, acid anhydrides and polyfunctional molecules.
- 3.) Understand the process of DNA replication, transcription, translation, mutation, and polymerase chain reaction, as well as the processes of catabolism and anabolism.

See http://www.venturacollege.edu/faculty_staff/academic_resources/core_competencies/index.shtml

Attendance: Attendance is mandatory and will be taken every class period. School policy states that students missing two weeks' worth of class will be dropped. If you are absent, you must to catch up on what you have missed or make arrangements beforehand; class information will not be repeated. Absence is not a valid excuse for missing assignments and cannot be used to avoid late penalties.

Academic Integrity: Cheating on or plagiarizing any assignment or examination is strictly prohibited and will result in a zero for that assignment and further disciplinary measures taken. This includes, but is not limited to, talking or using notes, references, or prohibited electronic devices during exams and copying homework assignments from tutors or other students. Be mature; cheating is always unacceptable, no matter the circumstances, and will be dealt with severely.

Classroom Conduct: Common courtesy is required. This includes, but is not limited to, punctuality, turning off all electronic devices, and refraining from talking or other disruptive behavior during class, and will lead to your removal from the classroom. Please let me know of any extenuating circumstances ahead of time. You made the effort to be in class; you should get the most out of it – be mature!

Grading Policy: Grades are available on D2L. Your grade in this course will be determined as follows:

Homework (best 14 of 15)	15 pts each for a total of	210 pts
Quizzes (best 9 of 10)	15 pts each for a total of	135 pts
Hour Exams (best 3 of 4)	165 pts each for a total of	495 pts
Final Exam		<u>160 pts</u>
	Total Possible Points	1000 pts
<i>Tentative Points to Grade:</i>	1000 to 890 points earns an	A
	889 to 780 points earns a	B
	779 to 670 points earns a	C
	669 to 600 points earns a	D
	599 to 0 points earns a	F

Extra credit may appear as unexpected in-class assignments but should not be anticipated.

Exams: Exams will be given during the class period on the dates indicated on the schedule on three to four chapters of material. The questions will be a combination of homework and in-class examples as multiple choice, short answer, and/or calculations. **Your lowest test score will be dropped before your final grade is calculated at the end of the semester.** This is to account for any emergencies, accidents, or just a bad test day. Therefore, **no make-up exams will be given, no matter the reason.** You will always be allowed the use of your calculator on every exam; calculators may not be shared. If you require alternative classroom or test accommodations, please contact me and the Educational Assistant Center at 654-6300 so that your needs may be met as soon as possible. The final exam is cumulative and mandatory; your final will be **Wednesday, December 17 at 3:30-5:30pm.**

Homework: Consisting of end-of-chapter questions found in the textbook, homework assignments are listed on the schedule and all are due at the start of class time (11:30AM) on the day assigned. All work must be done legibly and clearly shown. Late work is subject to a 10% penalty per day late up to 3 days, and scored as 0 for anything beyond 3 days past the due date. **Your lowest homework score will be dropped.** Working with tutors or other students on homework sets is both acceptable and encouraged, but just copying down answers is cheating and will be subject to disciplinary measures.

Quizzes: A quiz will be given during the first 10 minutes of class; dates are listed on the schedule. **No late quizzes will be given** and tardy students will not be given extra time to complete it. The questions will be similar to lecture examples. **Your lowest quiz score will be dropped.** You will always be allowed your calculator for every quiz.

A Final Note: This course is both demanding and difficult, especially if it's your first experience with a college-level science class. **Do not fall behind!** Chemistry is a cumulative subject and it is impossible to play catch-up. There are numerous resources available to help you not just survive but truly succeed in this class but **you must first take the initiative.** Please never feel timid about asking for help!