

CHEM V21L: Organic and Biochemistry Lab

Spring 2014

Instructor: Malia Rose

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Class Meetings: MW at 12:30-3:20pm in SCI-218

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

Feel free to stop by my office or e-mail me at any time, not just these hours; I'm here to help. If you'd like to set up a specific appointment or one-on-one time, please speak to or e-mail me.

Free peer tutoring is available at the LRC.

Requirements: Safety Goggles or Glasses & closed-toed shoes to be worn every meeting
ChemV21L manual, VC edition (+ in-class handouts on certain experiments)
Scientific Calculator

Prerequisites: CHEM V21 with a grade of C or better or concurrent enrollment.

Who should take this class? This course is designed to work with its lecture component, CHEM V21. It is meant to introduce organic and biochemical laboratory techniques through hands-on experiments, including preparation, separation, purification, and synthesis of compounds. This course is a very large time commitment – expect to stay the entire class period every week and four-six hours outside of class.

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

- 1.) Understand laboratory procedures, safety, scientific method, and lab notebook recording.
- 2.) Master techniques for organic chemistry reactions, synthesis, chromatography, and quantitative analysis.
- 3.) Master biochemical laboratory procedures for isolating and identifying DNA.

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

A Note on Safety: Although all experiments have been tested and the laboratory equipped and managed for your safety, accidents can and do happen due to the danger inherent in experimentation. For your own safety, you should come to class prepared with pre-reading done in the appropriate attire and pay attention to all instructions, verbal and written, when in the laboratory. **Any accidents, no matter how small, must be reported to me immediately.**

Equipment Policy: You are responsible for returning the equipment in your locker and anything else checked-out of the stockroom in the same condition you received it. After the check-in period, any damaged or unreturned equipment will be charged to your student account.

Academic Integrity: Most experiments are designed so that you may perform them with a group, but all work must be turned in separately unless explicitly told. Cheating on or plagiarizing any assignment or quiz is strictly prohibited and will result in a zero for that assignment with other disciplinary measures possible. This includes, but is not limited to, copying another's answers on any assignment or quiz and copy and pasting information from outside sources without proper citation.

Attendance: Attendance at every class meeting is mandatory. The course material must be performed during class time on the scheduled date; therefore, **there are no make-up labs**. By school policy, missing two weeks of class is grounds for being dropped from the course. Expect to attend every class meeting for the entire assigned time; all experiments are designed to go the full three hours.

Grading Policy: Grades are available on D2L. Your grade in this course consists of the following:

Scoring: A (100-90%), B (89-80%), C (79-70%), D (69-60%), F (< 59%).

Quizzes	30%
Pre-Lab Assignments	10%
Post-Lab Assignments	30%
Final Exam	30%

Late Work: All assignments must be turned in at class's start on the due dates listed on the schedule. Anything turned in beyond that time will be considered late and subject to a 20% penalty. Assignments will be accepted up to one week past the original due date; anything later will not be accepted. **There are no make-up labs**. If you miss an experiment, you will receive an automatic zero for the work associated with that experiment.

Quizzes: During the first 10 minutes of every class meeting, a quiz will be given on the material covered in the previous week's experiment with questions similar to those seen in lecture and post-lab. If you arrive more than 10 minutes late, you will receive a zero for that assignment. **There are no make-up or early quizzes; your lowest quiz score will be dropped.** You will always be allowed use of a calculator.

Pre-Lab Assignments: Pre-lab assignments must be printed out, completed, and turned in at the beginning of the experiment's scheduled start. **You may not begin the experiment until your pre-lab assignment is turned in.** They are found in your laboratory manual. They will often require you to look up information in outside resources that will be necessary to complete the in-class experiment. **Your lowest pre-lab score will be dropped.**

Post-Lab Assignments: Often while performing the experiment you will need to record data and observations and answer questions included in the procedure while in class. There are also post-lab assignments included in the manual to be done at home after the experiment. Post-lab assignments are due at the start of the next experiment. **There are no make-up post-lab assignments; your lowest post-lab score will be dropped.**

Lab Final: Your lab final will be a three-page research paper and 10 minute oral presentation on a current topic in biochemistry. You will be required to start working on this throughout the term, split into 3 groups to give your presentations in-class on the dates listed on the attached schedule. The grading scale will progressively increase the later your group presents. All students' final paper will be due on the last day of class. Your final exam grade will be a summation of your scores on the presentation and the paper.

Check-Out: If, for any reason, you drop the course before the end of the semester, you must contact me and arrange a check-out time. Otherwise, all students will check out of their drawers the last assigned class meeting. Students who do not check-out will be subject to a \$15 fee to their student account.