

Chemistry 231: Organic Chemistry II
Rio Hondo College—Spring, 2010
Instructor: Mr. Matt Koutroulis

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Course Web Page: <http://moodle.rioo2.com>

Office Hours: See web site for times. My office is Room S320B.

Textbooks: *Organic Chemistry, 2nd Edition* by Thomas Sorrell (required); *Study Guide/Solutions Manual* (required)

Laboratory Textbook and Materials: *Lab Manual for Chemistry 231* (required); *Laboratory Techniques for Organic Chemistry* (required); Safety goggles (required); Disposable gloves (required); Lab coat or apron (recommended)

Other Supplements: *Molecular Model Set for Organic Chemistry* (recommended)

Course Description: This course is the second of a two-semester sequence addressing the fundamental principles of organic chemistry, emphasizing the structure and reactivity of aromatic and carbonyl compounds. In addition, significant study will be devoted to bioorganic compounds, including carbohydrates and amino acids. The course is directed mainly at chemistry and life science majors, including students intending to enroll in medical, dental, and pharmacy school later in their academic career.

Prerequisites: Chemistry 230 with a grade of “C” or better. It is strongly recommended that you have completed Chem 230 within the last year.

Grading: Your grades will be based on the following: three midterm exams, a final examination, weekly quizzes, laboratory reports, and problem sets. I will use the following grading schedule in assigning grades:

To earn an...	Lowest Acceptable TOTAL %	Lowest Acceptable Total Exam %	Lowest Acceptable Total Lab %
A	88	85	85
B	78	75	75
C	65	65	65
D	55	55	55
F	0	0	0

The final grade assigned is the one for which you meet all of the required standards. For example, suppose you earned 89% of all total points, including a total of 88% of exam points and 90% of lab points. You would receive an A in the class since all three requirements are met. However, if you had earned the same percentage (89%) of total points, including a total of 81% of exam points and 96% of lab points you would receive a B in the class since your overall exam score is too low to qualify for an A, which requires you earn at least 85% of all exam points. I may, at my option, adjust the requirements for a grade to a lower percentage, based on review of the performance of the entire class at the end of the semester (curving). However, these requirements will not be adjusted to higher percentages.

At my option, students who miss two labs without a documented excuse may be dropped from the course or be given a grade of “F” if past the drop deadline. Please come and speak with me personally

if you are concerned that attendance may become an issue. I am aware that emergencies do occur, and I can be flexible in meeting your needs if circumstances arise which impede your progress in this course.

Examinations: Three examinations (not including the final exam) are scheduled for this course. At my option, this number may be adjusted although this is unlikely. Since concepts you learn earlier in the course are continuously used throughout later parts of the course, each exam is cumulative, although emphasis is always placed on the most recently covered material. It is rarely possible to make-up a missed exam. Alternative arrangements *may* be made in cases where outstanding circumstances are present (severe illness, etc.), but must be approved by me in advance. Examination dates will be announced in class and/or on the course web site 7-10 days in advance of the exam date. Note that molecular model kits may be used on all exams. Students are not allowed to use any kind of English-translation aids, electronic or otherwise, during examinations.

Quizzes: Several quizzes will be given over the course of the semester. The exact dates will be given on the course web site and announced in class. Missed quizzes cannot be made up under any circumstance, excused or otherwise. The quiz may be given at any time on the assigned day, including during the laboratory period. Please arrive on-time for all lectures and labs to avoid missing a quiz.

Final Examination: There are two distinct final examinations scheduled for this course. The first emphasizes material learned in Chemistry 231, and is scheduled on the last day of class. The ACS Final Examination in Organic Chemistry will be given during the officially scheduled final examination time on Wednesday, May, 11:15 am–1:15 pm. The ACS Final covers material from both semesters. I generally give a single final exam score, depending on which exam you perform best. You must take the final examinations at these times; alternative arrangements will only be made in cases of serious injury to yourself or death in the immediate family. No other excuses will be accepted, including vacation travel, family commitments, etc. Please let me know immediately if you foresee any problems with this, especially conflicts with other final exams.

Homework: A list of homework problems from the textbook will be provided. While these problems are ultimately not graded for credit, they will give you greater mastery of the material and should ultimately lead to better performance on examinations and quizzes. It is in your best interests to complete these problems and to do any additional work necessary to practice your skills. Problem sets (written or web-based) will be regularly assigned.

Academic Honesty: Cheating in Chemistry 231 will result in dire consequences. Any student found copying another's work on an assignment will receive no credit for that assignment. The same penalty applies for a student who allows another to cheat off of them. If this should happen more than once, the student will receive a grade of "F" in the class and the student will be referred to the Administration for discipline. Any student who cheats on an examination will receive a zero on that exam, and the student will be referred to the Division Dean. For clarification, your responses to any questions in the lab reports or any explanations must be your own; copying these responses from your fellow students is considered cheating. Also, you must not copy text from any source verbatim or in a way which closely follows its wording; this is considered plagiarism. You may quote the textbook in standard MLA fashion, but any quotes should be further explained/elaborated with your own, original writing.

Student Learning Outcomes: Throughout the semester, your performance on multiple student learning outcomes will be evaluated. These are skills for which all students who successfully complete this course should be able to demonstrate proficiency. In particular some outcomes which will be assessed this semester include--but are not necessarily limited to--the following:

Students predict mechanisms for organic reactions of basic to intermediate complexity, correctly indicating all curved arrows and formal charges.

Students prepare synthetic procedures (including a retrosynthesis) for organic molecules of basic to intermediate complexity.

Students elucidate the structure of organic molecules through the interpretation of physical and spectroscopy data.

Students with Disabilities Statement: Any student with a disability who believes that he/she may need accommodations in this class is encouraged to contact the Disabled Students Program and Services office as soon as possible to ensure that such accommodations are implemented in a timely manner. The office is located in room S205 and the telephone number is (562) 908-3420.

Important Dates for the Current Semester:

Last Day to Add Courses: Tuesday Feb. 9

Under no circumstances will students be allowed to add the course after this date.

Last Day to Drop without a "W" grade: Friday Mar. 5

Last Day to Drop with a "W" grade: Friday Apr. 30



Best Wishes for a Successful Semester!