

CHM 2211 - Organic Chemistry II – Dr. Grow

Course Syllabus – 20082 Spring 2008

"Imagination is more important than knowledge" - Albert Einstein

"It ain't what you don't know that's bad, it's what you do know that ain't right" - Will Rodgers

Instructor: Dr. Thomas Grow
Office: 9722 Phone: 484-1101
Office Hours: Posted on Office Door or by appointment.
eMail: tgrow@pjc.edu (Mail sent to me at WebCT will NOT be answered)

Text: Organic Chemistry by Vollhardt and Schore, 5th Edition (Model kit and Solutions Manual Optional). I also recommend Organic Chemistry as a Second Language by David R. Klein (Available online at wiley.com) and Preparing for Your ACS Examination in Organic Chemistry. Available online at www.uwm.edu/DEPT/chemexams/. (I suggest you order immediately).

Web-based Material: Copies of the syllabus, schedule, and other course-related materials are available on-line at <http://itech.pjc.edu/tgrow/2211tom.html>.

Class Schedule: Room 1772, 10:30 – 11:45 AM Tuesday and Thursday or
6:00 – 8:40 PM Tuesday

Assignments and Quizzes:

In order to do well in Organic II, you will probably have to work harder than you did in Organic I (Hard to believe, huh?). Not only will you need to learn the new material but will also be responsible for all the material we covered in Organic I. As with Organic I, the biggest mistake students make in organic chemistry is underestimating the amount of time and effort required succeeding in this difficult course. Students that expect to succeed in this class must spend at least 12 hours each week studying. One cannot study chemistry, a truly cumulative science, and not keep up with the reading and problem assignments. I am assuming that you will read your textbook BEFORE class discussion and that the assigned problems at the end of the chapters will be worked. I will not formally lecture on all the topics in the textbook, for that would be impossible in the time allotted, but I will expect you to read and study all assigned sections. It is expected that you will devote a portion of your study time in the further pursuit of topics of interest to you. All of you, as science majors, should be developing study skills that allow you to read and assimilate information without formal classroom discussion. To measure your progress in chemistry on a weekly basis, I will give a 10 point, 15-minute online quiz due each Tuesday by 6PM over the material discussed and/or assigned during that week. Quiz grades are available as soon as the quiz is submitted and will collectively count as one of the regular exams given during the course. It is your responsibility to know the time and due date of specific quizzes.

If you are having problems with the assignments, quizzes, or exams, I expect you to come and see me about your problems. I cannot help you unless you come and talk with me. I have office hours posted on my door and am available for help during these times. Take advantage of this free help from the person who writes the exams, it may surprise you how much it can help!

Exams:

There will be about 100 points worth of questions and quizzes, four 50-minute, 100 point exams given during the term, and the ACS Organic Chemistry Exam which will count for 200 points. Your final grade is determined by calculating the percentage of points you have earned out of the total points possible. The initial grading scale will be as follows:

90 - 100% A	85 - 89% B ⁺	78 - 85% B	75 - 77% C ⁺
60 - 75 % C	58 - 59% D ⁺	50 - 57% D	< 50% F

As you can see from this distribution, you can pass this course with a C by getting 60% of the total points. The final grading scale is determined, in part, by the grade distribution of the classes. However, it will never be higher than the percentages listed above. A good point to remember as we begin our study is that chemistry requires a cumulative knowledge of the structures and relations discussed or read about in previous sections: therefore, your exams will ALWAYS BE CUMULATIVE. Before every exam I will try to offer to have a help session for those students who wish to have one. If you miss an exam, your final exam grade will count for the missed exam. If you miss two exams, you get a zero on the second exam. You must take all exams as there will be no "drop tests" allowed. If you miss a quiz you will receive a zero on the quiz. I will drop your lowest quiz grade. The bonus points earned from office visits may be used to replace points lost because of additional missed quizzes (See the Office Visits section below for details). **NO MAKE-UP EXAMS OR QUIZZES** will be given except in prearranged, extraordinary circumstances. As you can see I do not "drop" the lowest exam grade. I will, however, replace your lowest regular exam grade with your grade on the final exam or the ACS exam percentile; assuming that your final grade average will be helped by this procedure. A missed exam counts as your lowest exam grade. After an exam is returned, you have one week in which to discuss grading and points and to utilize the Grade Improvement Options shown on the website. There will be NO discussion of grading or points during the last week of the course. **Because the final exam is cumulative and represents what you actually learned in organic, any student failing the final exam will NOT receive a grade HIGHER THAN "C" regardless of their overall average. Any student who expects to receive an "A" in chemistry must score higher than 70th percentile on the ACS exam. You must also have scored an "A" on at least one of the regular exams. Students with a final average less than 50% will NOT receive a passing grade in organic chemistry (no exceptions).**

Office Visits Bonus Points:

In order to help you take advantage of what is available, you should come see me in my office at least once each week during the term or visit me during Virtual Office Hours posted on the website. You must ask at least one question regarding the material we are covering at the time. You may also earn bonus points by submitting eMolecules. You will earn a maximum of 2 points each week for office visits and eMolecules (18-points maximum bonus. 6 points before each of tests 1-3). If you do not miss any quizzes during the term, these bonus points will be added to your total points.

Class Attendance and Student Withdrawal:

Class begins at 6:00 PM sharp and I expect you to be on time. Any student who wanders into class late and interrupts the class by walking in front of Dr. Grow will be asked to leave the room. Class attendance is required and any student missing more than 2 classes before the "last day to withdraw" (March 26th) may be dropped from the course. The reason for this strict policy is simply that students who miss classes do not succeed in chemistry. If you must be absent from a class, you should call and let me know that you will be absent and when you will return. The only exceptions to the drop policy are arranged by discussion with me prior to the 3rd absence. **Any student who has withdrawn from lecture must also withdraw from the laboratory course. Failure to withdraw from lab will result in the assignment of a grade of "F" for the lab.**

It is the policy of the College that students who are still registered in a class after the "last day to withdraw" will receive a grade in the class and NOT a "W". **It is the responsibility of the student to make sure that if they wish to receive a "W" grade in a course that they withdraw themselves from the course before this date.** Instructors cannot issue instructor withdrawals for any students after the "last day to withdraw" (See page 42 of catalog). The excuse "I didn't know my instructor couldn't or wouldn't withdraw me" will not be adequate to result in a change of an assigned grade to a "W." Students who exceed 5 absences (3 for the evening class) after the last day to withdraw will receive an "early" F in BOTH lecture and lab. This may result in a request from the provider to return financial aid you may have received.

Classroom Behavior:

All cell phones, beepers, and pagers are to be turned off while you are in class. If your cell phone, pager, or beeper goes off in class you will immediately be asked to leave the class (no exceptions) and will not be allowed to return to the class that day. If you actually answer your cell phone in class you will be asked to leave the class and will not be allowed to return until you have met with both the instructor and Peter Wilkin, the Director of Student Life.

If you sleep in class, put your head down on the desk while the instructor is presenting material, yawn in an obvious and disruptive manner, get up and wander around, or otherwise disrupt the class you will be given one warning and, if the behavior is repeated, be asked to leave the class for the day. If you cannot stay awake in class it is suggested that you go home and get some sleep. If you must yawn, show a little class and cover your mouth. The use of portable computers, games, headphones, text messaging devices, and other such electronic equipment is NOT allowed in class.

The policy at PJC states that food and drinks are not allowed in class. Because I do not feel that having a drink in class is normally a problem, students may bring soft drinks or water to class. You are expected to place empty containers in the trash. Eating food in class is not allowed.

Conflict Resolution:

In the event that you come into conflict with the instructor in this course, complaining to your friends or other faculty, or staff will not solve the problem. You should follow the procedure below to resolve the conflict.

1. Contact the instructor and explain your complaint to see if a quick resolution to the problem can be achieved.
2. If you feel you cannot talk to the instructor or are not satisfied with the response of the instructor, contact the Chairman of the Department of Physical Sciences, Dr. Ed Stout (Bldg. 97, Phone 484-1106), and explain the situation.
3. If your discussions with the Chairman do not resolve the issue, you may contact the Vice President of Academic Affairs, Dr. David Sam at 484-1706.

You should understand that the College will make every effort to resolve any problems you may have with any instructor. You should also understand that the College cannot help you unless you inform the appropriate personnel who are in a position to help in the resolution of conflicts.

Special Attention:

Students requiring classroom accommodations or modifications because of documented disability should contact Disability Student Serves (DSS) at 484-1637 at the beginning of the term so that the instructor can be notified.

Flexibility:

It is the intention of the instructor to accomplish the objectives specified in the course syllabus. However, circumstances may arise which prohibit the fulfilling of this endeavor. Therefore, this syllabus and schedule are subject to change. When possible, you will be notified of any change in advance of its occurrence.