

SPRING 2025
Chem 2323-Fundamentals of Organic Chemistry
Section 10244
Tuesday, Thursday 5:30 - 7:00 pm **Room 160-Fleming**

Instructor: Dr. Olafs Daugulis olafs@uh.edu (subject line: Chem 2323)

Office: 439 STL

Problem solving sessions: 7:00-8:00 pm Th (after the lecture; room 160-Fleming)

Office hours: by appointment. Email me and I will get back to you with a convenient time.

Text: John McMurry: Organic Chemistry, 10th ed. Available for free from [Openstax](#)

Molecular models strongly suggested (will be able to use during exams)

You do NOT need to buy any access codes. There is nothing on Canvas.

Grading: 3 evening exams (60% of the grade; lowest grade dropped), and a final exam (40%).

NO MAKE UPS!

Quizzes: UNANNOUNCED quizzes are open notes but not open textbook or neighbor's quiz.

Exam Schedule:

1. Friday, February 14, 7-8:30 PM
2. Friday, March 21, 7-8:30 PM
3. Friday, April 18, 7-8:30 PM

FINAL EXAM: TBD, 8-10 AM

Persons requiring assistance under ADA guidelines please contact me immediately.

Last day to drop without hours counting towards enrollment cap: January 29. Last day to drop a course without receiving a grade: January 29. Last day to drop a course or withdraw: April 16.

Course Outline

<u>Date</u>	<u>Chapter</u>	<u>Problems</u>
Jan 14, 16	1: Structure, Bonding	
Jan 21, 23	2: Bonds; Acids, Bases	
Jan 28	3: Alkanes	
Jan 30, Feb 4	4: Cycloalkanes	
Feb 6, 11	5: Stereochemistry	
FEB 14 - EXAM 1 (Ch 1-5)		
Feb 13, 18	6: Organic Reactions	
Feb 20, 25	7: Alkene Structure, Reactivity	
Feb 27, Mar 4	8: Alkene Reactions, Synthesis	
Mar 6, 18	9: Alkynes, Synthesis	

Mar 21 - EXAM 2 (Ch 6-9)

Mar 20, 25	10: Organohalides
Mar 27, Apr 1, 3	11: Alkyl Halides: Substitutions, Eliminations
Apr 8, 10, 15	17: Alcohols, Phenols
Apr 17	12: MS, IR

Apr 18 - EXAM 3 (Ch 10, 11, 17)

Apr 22, 24	13: NMR
------------	---------

TBD - 8-10 AM FINAL EXAM (Chapters 1-13, 17)

1. All drops are the responsibility of the student.
2. ALL GRADED WORK SHOULD BE DONE INDIVIDUALLY. The UH Academic Honesty Policy is in effect. **All graded exams are copied.**
3. All quizzes and exams are closed book. Model kits are the only external things allowed. Books, notes, cell phones, calculators etc MUST be left in your **closed** bag.
4. Students who need accommodations are responsible for communicating these to me.
5. **YOU CAN NOT TAKE CHEM 1311, CHEM 1312, OR CHEM 2325 CONCURRENTLY WITH THIS COURSE.**
6. Grades are assigned based on performance and not need (“I will lose a scholarship, I will not enter med school if you give me this grade, I will not graduate on time” etc will not work). The **ONLY** way of getting out of a failed grade after the drop date is medical withdrawal **FROM ALL CLASSES IN GIVEN SEMESTER. There will be no extra credit – do not even ask!**
7. Class website: <http://olafs.chem.uh.edu/teach.html>
8. **NO RECORDING DURING CLASS!!!**
9. **Regrades.** If there is an addition error on exam, I will correct it without regrading anything else. If you want a question regraded, I will regrade the whole test and you may get points added or subtracted to your total score. Make sure that adding 1 point in Question 1 is not accompanied by subtraction of 10 points in Question 2. Submit regrade no later than 10 days after exam. **Any change in the exam you show me which has been introduced after it was graded constitutes cheating and you will get 0 for this test without possibility of dropping the test score and the class.**
10. Syllabus is subject to modification without notice if circumstances change.
11. **If you have a documented and university approved excuse for missing any exam you are responsible for communicating this to me by email for a minimum of 10 days before exam. If this is not communicated timely, you will have to use this as a drop exam.**
12. **Uploading or viewing ANY course materials, including lectures, problem sets, or Exams to Chegg or other unauthorized websites at any time during this semester (1/14/2025-5/14/2025) constitutes violation of University honesty and copyright policies. You or someone who has access to your Chegg account (or a similar service account) uploading or viewing any exam materials for this semester on any unauthorized website will result in a failed grade or worse. Chegg readily provides University with information.**
13. **If you miss more than one Midterm for any reason, you will be dropped from the class.** University Excused Absence Policy: Excused absences under this policy may be granted for a maximum percentage of coursework as determined by the instructor in each class, typically 15%. Coursework limit may include “clicker” questions, exams, quizzes, and homework. <https://uh.edu/provost/students/student-policies/excused-absence-policy/index>

HOW TO SUCCEED IN ORGANIC CHEMISTRY/GRADE INFO

1. Come to class. If you miss class, copy BY HAND notes from someone in the class. Taking pictures of the notes will not help as it is you, and not your phone, who needs this information in memory.
2. (a) Watching organic chemistry videos on youtube does not substitute for coming to class, studying, and doing homework problems! It may be helpful, but watching videos without doing problems is insufficient.
(b) Doing random problems found in internet tubes is not helpful as these are often full of errors. Need more problems – ask me or use www.chem3331.com.
3. Read textbook BEFORE coming to class. You will be able to specifically ask questions about material you have trouble understanding. Furthermore, seeing material for the second time will help you understand it much better.
4. Try to do all homework – doing only the assigned problems is the minimum required. Do not look at homework answers before you have solved the problem – you will not be provided answers to peek into during tests!
5. Ask questions before, during and after the lectures. At other times, email me questions and I will usually answer those within a few hours. HOWEVER – be specific in asking questions by email as I will not retype textbook in my answer.
Example of a good question: does methyl iodide react by SN1 or SN2 and why. Example of a bad question: Please tell me about SN1 reaction as I was busy texting during lecture.
6. Attend problem solving sessions on Thu after class. You do NOT need to sign up and pay for them, they are voluntary. On Thu before the exam, we will work a sample test from previous few years.
7. If you can, sign up for the workshop. Check for the teaching style of TA who runs your section – talk to previous year students if they liked that TA.
8. Thinking about the grade and studying hard must start at the beginning of semester. Very few students can succeed if they slack off at the beginning.
9. Grade cutoffs and distributions in last few years:
S2013: A above 87, B above 75, C above 63, D above 50.
Grade distribution: A 54, A- 1, B+ 7, B 37, B- 2, C+ 3, C 40, D+ 2, D 35, D- 2, F 17, W 34.
S2019: A above 87, B above 75, C above 63, D above 48.
Grade distribution: A 53, A- 6, B+ 7, B 52, B- 5, C+ 3, C 56, C- 7, D 41, D- 8, F 28, W 35.
S2021 (mostly online): A above 86, B above 73, C above 61, D above 45.
Grade distribution: A 43, A- 2, B+ 2, B 29, B- 6, C+ 6, C 34, C- 6, D 39, D- 6, F 64, W 41

Grade cutoffs this year likely will be within a point or two from the ones above.

Final calculation of points:

- (a) drop lowest midterm score, (b) add 2 midterms + Final, (c) divide number by 3.35.
- Please note that Midterms are 100 pts each, Final 135 pts.

Policy on grades of I (Incomplete): The grade of "I" (Incomplete) is a conditional and temporary grade given when a student, for reasons beyond his or her control, has not completed a relatively small portion of all requirements. Sufficiently serious, documented situations include illness, death in close family.

Tutoring

- LAUNCH - www.uh.edu/ussc/launch
At LAUNCH, students can:
 - Drop in for individual **Peer Tutoring** on over 100 different courses—no appointment necessary! LAUNCH is located in Cougar Village 1, room N109. <http://www.uh.edu/ussc/launch/index.php>.
 - Attend a **Success Workshop**: <http://www.uh.edu/ussc/launch/index.php>.
 - Set up an individual appointment with an **Academic Counselor**: **713-743-5411**
- Scholar Enrichment Program (SEP) provides online/remote tutoring services using Microsoft Teams - <https://uh.edu/nsm/scholar-enrichment/tutoring/>

Addendum: Whenever possible, and in accordance with 504/ADA guidelines, the University of Houston will attempt to provide reasonable academic accommodations to students who request and require them. Please call 713-743-5400 for more assistance.

NSM Code of Honor (<https://uh.edu/nsm/students/undergraduate/code-of-honor/>)

The College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics (NSM) expects its students and faculty to work together to promote a culture and environment for honorable completion of academic work. As members of NSM, we must all demonstrate personal and academic integrity, honesty and mutual respect for one another. This requires that we all uphold the [University of Houston Academic Honesty Policy](#) and [Codes of Conduct](#), which apply in all academic settings, including the online environment.

As members of this science and math community, we aim to strengthen and improve the quality of life for our local communities and society as a whole, so it is important that we all demonstrate the highest ethical standards, which are critical to the integrity of the institution.

Academic Honesty: It is each student's responsibility to read and understand Acad. Honesty Policy: <http://catalog.uh.edu/content.php?catoid=6&navoid=1025>. There will be no tolerance towards academic dishonesty, and cheating can lead to report of a violation of the Academic Honesty policy to the UH Office of Undergraduate Academic Affairs.

Students may be asked to sign an honor code statement as part of their submission of any graded work including but not limited to projects, quizzes, and exams: *"I understand and agree to abide by the provisions in the [University of Houston Undergraduate Academic Honesty Policy](#). I understand that academic honesty is taken very seriously and, in the cases of violations, penalties may*

include suspension or expulsion from the University of Houston.

NOTE: The materials provided by the instructor in this course are for the use of the students enrolled in the course only. Copyrighted course materials may not be further disseminated without instructor permission. This includes sharing content to commercial course material suppliers such as Course Hero or Chegg. Students are also prohibited from sharing materials derived from the instructor's content (e.g., a student's lecture notes).

COVID-19 Information

Students are encouraged to visit the University's [COVID-19](#) website for important information including diagnosis and symptom protocols, testing, vaccine information, and post-exposure guidance. Please check the website throughout the semester for updates. Consult the (select: [Undergraduate Excused Absence Policy](#) or [Graduate Excused Absence Policy](#)) for information regarding excused absences due to medical reasons.

Reasonable Academic Adjustments/Auxiliary Aids

The University of Houston complies with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, pertaining to the provision of reasonable academic adjustments/auxiliary aids for disabled students. In accordance with Section 504 and ADA guidelines, UH strives to provide reasonable academic adjustments/auxiliary aids to students who request and require them. If you believe that you have a disability requiring an academic adjustments/auxiliary aid, please contact [the Justin Dart Jr. Student Accessibility Center](#) (formerly the Justin Dart, Jr. Center for Students with DisABILITIES).

Excused Absence Policy

Regular class attendance, participation, and engagement in coursework are important contributors to student success. Absences may be excused as provided in the University of Houston [Undergraduate Excused Absence Policy](#) and [Graduate Excused Absence Policy](#) for reasons including: medical illness of student or close relative, death of a close family member, legal or government proceeding that a student is obligated to attend, recognized professional and educational activities where the student is presenting, and University-sponsored activity or athletic competition. Under these policies, students with excused absences will be provided with an opportunity to make up any quiz, exam or other work that contributes to the course grade or a satisfactory alternative. Please read the full policy for details regarding reasons for excused absences, the approval process, and extended absences. Additional policies address absences related to [military service](#), [religious holy days](#), [pregnancy and related conditions](#), and [disability](#).

Recording of Class

Students may not record all or part of class, livestream all or part of class, or make/distribute screen captures, without advanced written consent of the instructor. If you have or think you may have a disability such that you need to record class-related activities, please contact the [Justin Dart, Jr. Student Accessibility Center](#). If you have an accommodation to record class-related activities, those recordings may not be shared with any other student, whether in this course or not, or with any other

person or on any other platform. Classes may be recorded by the instructor. Students may use instructor's recordings for their own studying and notetaking. Instructor's recordings are not authorized to be shared with *anyone* without the prior written approval of the instructor. Failure to comply with requirements regarding recordings will result in a disciplinary referral to the Dean of Students Office and may result in disciplinary action.

Recommended Language

Resources for Online Learning

The University of Houston is committed to student success, and provides information to optimize the online learning experience through our [Power-On](#) website. Please visit this website for a comprehensive set of resources, tools, and tips including: obtaining access to the internet, AccessUH, Blackboard, and Canvas; using your smartphone as a webcam; and downloading Microsoft Office 365 at no cost. For questions or assistance contact UHOnline@uh.edu.

UH Email

Please check and use your CougarNet email for communications related to this course. To access this email, [login](#) to your Microsoft 365 account with your CougarNet credentials.

Webcams

Access to a webcam is required for students participating remotely in this course. Webcams must be turned on (*state when webcams are required to be on and the academic basis for requiring them to be on*). (Example: Webcams must be turned on during exams to ensure the academic integrity of exam administration.)

Academic Honesty Policy

High ethical standards are critical to the integrity of any institution, and bear directly on the ultimate value of conferred degrees. All UH community members are expected to contribute to an atmosphere of the highest possible ethical standards. Maintaining such an atmosphere requires that any instances of academic dishonesty be recognized and addressed. The [UH Academic Honesty Policy](#) is designed to handle those instances with fairness to all parties involved: the students, the instructors, and the University itself. All students and faculty of the University of Houston are responsible for being familiar with this policy.

Title IX/Sexual Misconduct

Per the UHS Sexual Misconduct Policy, your instructor is a "responsible employee" for reporting purposes under Title IX regulations and state law and must report incidents of sexual misconduct (sexual harassment, non-consensual sexual contact, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, sexual intimidation, intimate partner violence, or stalking) about which they become aware to the Title IX office. Please know there are places on campus where you can make a report in confidence. You can find more information about resources on the Title IX website at <https://uh.edu/equal-opportunity/title-ix-sexual-misconduct/resources/>.

Security Escorts and Cougar Ride

UHPD continually works with the University community to make the campus a safe

place to learn, work, and live. Our Security escort service is designed for the community members who have safety concerns and would like to have a Security Officer walk with them, for their safety, as they make their way across campus. Based on availability either a UHPD Security Officer or Police Officer will escort students, faculty, and staff to locations beginning and ending on campus. If you feel that you need a Security Officer to walk with you for your safety please call [713-743-3333](tel:713-743-3333). Arrangements may be made for special needs.

Parking and Transportation Services also offers a late-night, on-demand shuttle service called Cougar Ride that provides rides to and from all on-campus shuttle stops, as well as the MD Anderson Library, Cougar Village/Moody Towers and the UH Technology Bridge. Rides can be requested through the UH Go app. Days and hours of operation can be found at <https://uh.edu/af-university-services/parking/cougar-ride/>.

Syllabus Changes

Please note that the instructor may need to make modifications to the course syllabus. Notice of such changes will be announced as quickly as possible through (*specify how students will be notified of changes*).

Helpful Information

Coogs Care: <https://uh.edu/dsa/coogscare/>

Student Health Center: <https://www.uh.edu/healthcenter/>

Standard Disclaimer: This syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.