

**CHM 124 - INTRODUCTION TO ORGANIC CHEMISTRY  
SYLLABUS - SPRING 2015**

*Instructor:* Dr. Silvana C. Ngo  
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*Email:* sngo@chm.uri.edu  
*Office hours:* TWTh 2:30 - 3:30 PM or by appt.

*Class Meetings:*  
Pastore 234 Section 1: T Th 9:30 – 10:45 AM  
Pastore 124 Section 2: T Th 12:30 – 1:45 PM

**General Information for Students**

This sheet contains information about the organization of CHM 124 for this semester. It should be carefully read and retained, together with the course schedule, for future reference by each student taking the course.

**Books/Resources.**

Required:

- MindTap eReader Textbook (via OWLv2): “Organic & Biochemistry for Today,” Seager/Slabaugh, 8<sup>th</sup> ed. ANY recent edition of the Seager/Slabaugh organic/biochemistry hardcopy textbook may also be used.
- Online Homework: OWLv2 6-month or 24-month access for Seager/Slabaugh, 8<sup>th</sup> Edition  
Students from the Fall 2014 CHM 103 sections already have both OWLv2 and MindTap eReader Textbook access.

**Course Site.**

Information for the course is posted in Sakai. Be sure to check Sakai regularly throughout the semester.

**Grading Policies.**

A student’s course percentage will be calculated as follows:

Exams (Average of 4 lecture exams)	68 %
Final	17 %
Assignments (OWLv2)	
OWL - MAS	7 %
OWL - HW	8 %
Total	100 %

Anyone who has the following overall average is guaranteed *at least* the grade shown: 95 = A; 90 = A-; 78 = B-; 65 = C-; 55 = D.

A student’s grade is earned by demonstrating mastery/proficiency of the course material as evinced by the quality of the student’s performance in exams and assignments. It is *not* open to negotiation nor dictated by what’s needed to progress in the student’s chosen program of study.

*No make-up exams will be given.* The final exam score will replace the grade of any one of the four lecture exams that is missed OR lower than the final exam score. The purpose of replacing a missed lecture exam with the final exam score is to eliminate the need for make-up exams.

**Exam Format and Rules.**

Exams will be a mix of multiple choice and questions that require more detailed answers. All work must be shown to get credit. Each exam may require you to use techniques and concepts learned in previous chapters, so all exams are

cumulative. The final exam will have the same format as the lecture exams and will be 1.5 to twice the length of the usual exams.

*Students must attend all examinations in the section they are registered in.* You will be assigned a seat for taking all exams. You will receive a zero for a grade if you are not in your assigned seat for the exam. Things to bring to each exam: pen (exams must be written in ink) and your URI ID. No other form of identification will be accepted. On exam days, wait outside the classroom until you're instructed to enter. Once you have started the exam, you are not allowed to leave the room until you are finished.

Alternate testing accommodations will be provided for students with a documented disability. As part of this process, please contact the Disability Services for Students Office at 330 Memorial Union, 874-2098 (<http://www.uri.edu/disability/dss/>) as early in the course as possible. You must provide your approved documentation to me at the latest, one full week before the exam.

Exam answers and scores will be posted in Sakai. I will put an announcement in Sakai for when you can pick up your exams. When you pick up your exams, you have to look through it in my office. If you think you need a question re-graded, you have to tell me then and there. Note that any request for re-grading means the entire exam will be re-graded. No request for re-grading will be accepted once you have left my office with your exam.

**Assignments.** *Information for registering for OWLv2 is posted in Sakai.*

Assignments will be administered through OWLv2 (Online Web Learning). We will be using OWLv2 for several assignment types: PLA (Pre-Lecture Activity), MAS (Mastery), and HW (Homework). Assignment due dates are clearly indicated in OWLv2 and *no extensions* will be given. Please do not ask for any.

- *PLA (Pre-Lecture Activity)* – Extra credit  
The PLAs may include one or more of the following: VIS (Visual), TUT (Tutorial), and SIM (Simulation) and are designed to work as a learning opportunity. These will be counted as extra credit with a maximum value of 20 points (based on 100%) which will be added to the sum of your exams before averaging at the end of the semester. Due dates will be one day before the last lecture day for each chapter.
- *MAS (Mastery)* – Required  
The MAS assignments is used to help you learn and practice the new skills you have gained. These are due one day after we finish a chapter.
- *HW (Homework)* – Required  
HW assignments consist of end-of-chapter questions and are due one week after we finish a chapter. This will help you further practice new skills as well as serve as a self-test of how you are progressing.

### **The Academic Enhancement Center (AEC).**

This is a challenging course. To help students in this course, the AEC provides Supplemental Instruction (SI) through special learning sessions. The SI leader for this course is Erica Sebastyan. Information on SI schedule will be updated in Sakai. The AEC also provides walk-in services for students. Information regarding the center is available on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor of Roosevelt Hall, 874-2367 (<http://www.uri.edu/aec/>).

### **Academic Integrity.**

The university policy on academic honesty will be enforced. Any incidence of academic dishonesty, as defined by the policies outlined in the URI's Student Handbook, will result in either one or all of the following: a grade of zero for the exam, failure for the course, and formal notification to the Dean of Students.

## Email.

Do note that I receive a substantial number of emails daily. I am teaching two sections of this course this semester, so to ensure that your email will be answered, please remember to: include your *full name* and *section number*, indicate the topic briefly on the subject line, and write a clear and complete message.

## Tips for Success.

I want each of you to succeed! Organic chemistry is highly cumulative, and new material will almost always build on those that you have learned already. In order to do well in this course, a significant amount of effort and time input is necessary. Here are some tips to help you in this course:

- *Come to class.* There is a very good correlation between class attendance and how well you will do in this class. Note that electronic devices (e.g. cell phones, laptops, tablets) are not allowed in class.
- *Be prepared.* Read the assigned reading material, work on the in-chapter problems and start work on the PLA before each class. This will help you to better understand what is covered in class. Bring a printout of the lecture slides to class so that you do not have to copy everything. Listen, take notes, and pay attention to how problems are solved. Do not fall behind in the reading and the problem solving.
- *Reinforce.* After each lecture, go over your notes, reread the chapter until you understand the material, and redo the problems presented in the lecture. Organic chemistry is a very visual subject so do not just look at the solutions and assume that you know how to do them. The only way to master the material is to do problems on paper. Your goal should be to understand how the problems are done. Redo the problems presented in the lecture until you are able to do them in one try. Then, do as many of the problems at the end of the chapter until you feel comfortable with the material. You have to get to the point where you are able to do the problems on your own. As a general rule, students should be studying 2-3 hours for each hour of class time.
- *Get help early.* Make sure you understand the material as we move through the course. If you are stuck, ask for help immediately by coming to office hours, or going to the help sessions offered. Do not just shrug it off hoping the next one will be easier. Material in each chapter will be used in subsequent chapters so if you fall behind, it will be very difficult to catch up again. Office hours are posted on the first page of this Syllabus.

## Lecture/Exam Schedule

The breakdown for each chapter will depend on the pace of the class. You are responsible for all of the material in each chapter unless announced differently and for material presented during lectures, including those not in the text.

Week #	Tuesday	Thursday
<b>1</b>		1/22 Syllabus, Ch 11
<b>2</b>	1/27 Ch 11	1/29 Ch 11
<b>3</b>	2/3 Ch 11, 12	2/5 Ch 12
<b>4</b>	2/10 Ch 12	<b>2/12</b> <i>Exam 1 (Ch 11 - 12)</i>
<b>5</b>	2/17 Ch 13	2/19 Ch 13
<b>6</b>	2/24 Ch 13, 14	2/26 Ch 14
<b>7</b>	3/3 Ch 14	<b>3/5</b> <i>Exam 2 (Ch 13 - 14)</i>
<b>8</b>	3/10 Ch 15	3/12 Ch 15
<b>9</b>	3/17 Spring Break	3/19 Spring Break
<b>10</b>	3/24 Ch 15, 16	3/26 Ch 16
<b>11</b>	3/31 Ch 16	<b>4/2</b> <i>Exam 3 (Ch 15 - 16)</i>
<b>12</b>	4/7 Ch 17	4/9 Ch 17, 18
<b>13</b>	4/14 Ch 18	4/16 Ch 18, 19
<b>14</b>	4/21 Ch 19	<b>4/23</b> <i>Exam 4 (Ch 17 - 19)</i>
<b>15</b>	4/28 Review	4/30 Reading Day
<b>16</b>	<i>5/5 Section 2</i> <i>Final Exam, 11:30 AM</i>	<i>5/7 Section 1</i> <i>Final Exam, 11:30 AM</i>