General

Organic Chemistry is the study of the compounds formed by carbon, of which many millions have been identified so far. The subject forms the basis of biochemistry and genetics, and is the backbone of industries like pharmaceuticals, oil, dyes and cosmetics. Whether you intend to study chemistry, biology, pharmacy, medicine or engineering, a sound understanding of the fundamentals of Organic Chemistry is essential, and of course the material is relevant for the various standardized tests used for entry to professional schools (e.g. PCAT, DAT, MCAT, GRE, etc.).

In two semesters we can only hope to cover the basics; however this still amounts to a very large amount of material. Indeed, everything that is covered in 3719 is relevant when we get to 3720 so it is very easy to get swamped in this class by not studying from the beginning in a consistent manner. Since we will not have time in class to cover every detail contained within the text, it is essential that you get into the habit of studying your notes and the text at night, and then working the suggested problems to see if you understand the material. KEEP UP!

The lecture and laboratory portions of the Organic Chemistry sequence coincide as much as possible since everything discussed in lecture is the result of past experimental work. You will certainly find yourself using the lecture text to work out problems from the lab, and hopefully this will help you see that lab and lecture are closely interconnected.

Quizzes and Grading

There will be twelve (12) quizzes given throughout the semester each of which will be worth 10 points. At the end of the semester we will drop your two lowest scores and then calculate your grade based on the approximate scale given below. Adjustments will be made as needed based on overall class performance and difficulty of the quizzes given. The Professor (Norris) is responsible for setting the final 3719R grades.

A 100-90 pts
B 89-80 pts
C 79-70 pts
D 69-60 pts
F <60 pts

Quiz Format

The quizzes will cover material seen in the previous 3719 lectures and will not cover material from the lecture that is given on the same day that you are taking the quiz. Since there are 14 weeks with Monday recitation meetings (school is closed Labour Day) you will have a quiz each week except the first (8/25), Labor Day (9/1), and the Monday after Thanksgiving (12/1).

Academic Misconduct

You are referred to the YSU Student Code of Conduct (http://www.ysu.edu/thecode.pdf) for an account of the typical consequences associated with academic misconduct. Any attempts at cheating in Chemistry 3719/3719R/3719L will be dealt with severely. If you are caught cheating, for example for copying a lab report, for looking at someone else’s paper during an exam, or for using a cellular phone during an exam or quiz, you will at least be given an F grade for the 3719/3719L course. During exams, please bring with you a means of photographic identification; this will be checked at the end of the exam. Since the professor grades all of the exam papers any examples of copying will be discovered and dealt with; random pages of completed tests will be photocopied. Do not jeopardize your future by cheating.