Instructor: Prof. Susan A. Odom
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Office Hours: MWF 10:00 am-10:50 pm in CP-207, otherwise by appointment
Class Sessions: MWF 9:00-9:50 a.m., CP-139
Help Sessions: as announced
Course website: http://www.chem.uky.edu/courses/che230/SAO/

Course Objectives: To study the structure, properties, and reactivity of the major classes of organic compounds, and to develop the problem-solving skills related to organic chemistry. Upon completing the course, students will have the ability to analyze organic compounds and predict the outcome of reactions, even ones that have not explicitly been discussed. Students will have a better understanding of how organic chemistry relates to health, energy, and the environment.

Content: The first part of the course will concentrate on the structure of organic compounds (chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 5) and how we study those structures (chapters 13, 14). The second portion will concentrate on the reactivity of organic functional groups. (chapters 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12).

Exam Schedule:
Exam 1: Feb 10 (9:00 – 9:50am)    Exam 2: March 9 (9:00 – 9:50am)
Exam 3: April 13 (9:00 – 9:50am)  Final: May 3 (10:30am – 12:30pm)

Course Materials
2. A set of molecular models (strongly encouraged).

Attendance: Attendance is mandatory.

Grading: A total of 500 points are awarded in this course: 100 for each of the three fifty-minute exams, and 200 for the final exam. The assignment of grades will be based on the following percentages: A = 100 – 80%; B = 79 – 70%; C = 69 – 60%; D = 59 – 50%; E = 49 – 0%.

Exams: All exams are cumulative. You must present your UK student ID at each exam in order to receive credit for taking the exam. Molecular models and writing utensils are permitted at exams. Notes, books, calculators, or other electronic devices are not permitted. Graded exams will be returned within a week of the exam date. If you think an answer was mis-graded, submit a paper copy of your response to me along with a brief written statement about why you deserve credit. Requests for re-grading must be received within one week of the graded exam return date.

Academic Integrity: Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated, and the minimum penalty for cheating is a grade of 0 on the exam.

Alternative/Makeup Exams: Students who have academic conflicts (i.e. conflicts with university classes, participation in athletic teams, etc.) will be offered an alternate exam time. Please contact me as soon as possible if you will be unable to attend one of the scheduled examinations. A student who has legitimately missed an exam because of a documented, excused absence that conforms to the University Senate Rules will be allowed the opportunity to take a make-up exam. If an exam is missed without an excused absence, a ‘0’ will be recorded for the exam.

Disabilities: If you have a documented disability that requires academic accommodations, let me know as soon as possible. In order to receive accommodations in this course, you must provide
me with a Letter of Accommodation from the Disability Resource Center (Room 2, Alumni Gym, 257-2754, email address jkarnes@email.uky.edu) for coordination of campus disability services available to students with disabilities.

**Course Policies, Advice, and Study Habits:** The subject of all emails should begin with “CHE 230.” All email correspondence related to this course should be sent via your uky.edu email account. Email messages received from any other account cannot be authenticated and may not be recognized by email filters. Please do not leave me a voicemail unless absolutely necessary. I will be able to get back to you much sooner if you email me.

*Attend every class session.* We will be going over material and problems that are not necessarily in the text. Read and think about each topic before the lecture. DO NOT FALL BEHIND. You cannot cram for an organic exam! Organic chemistry is best learned by engaging the material every day and in parts. Waiting until the last minute to study will leave an overwhelming amount of material to be learned in too little time. Consistency and discipline are the keys to success. If you’re having trouble with a concept, stop by for office hours or send me an email to schedule an appointment.

I will work hard to convey the most important concepts of organic chemistry to you. I expect you to take an independent role in your own education and to be responsible for your study and learning habits. I encourage you to study together. Working together on practice problems and homework can be very beneficial. You can learn how your fellow students think about approaching a problem, which can be valuable. When working end-of-chapter problems, do not simply look at the solutions manual and assume you can do a problem. Work the problems without the solutions manual. Use it only to check the answers to problems you’ve already worked on paper.

Finally, organic chemistry can be quite a challenging course. It requires the development and use of critical thinking skills that are distinctively unique from other courses you will have encountered. Organic chemistry is not about what you can memorize but instead how you use the information around you to better predict, analyze, and understand the reactivity of organic compounds. Organic chemistry has relevance in medicine, pharmacology, engineering, environmental science, and many other fields outside of chemistry itself. A thorough understanding of the behavior of organic compounds will enable you to make better decisions in your personal life and in your career, no matter what your goals are.

I am committed to making this course a positive experience for everyone. Your feedback and suggestions for improvement are always greatly appreciated. I wish you a fantastic semester!