

**CHEM 2323 ORGANIC CHEMISTRY I****Instructor Information**

Dr. Stephen Starnes

Email: Stephen.Starnes@etamu.edu

Office: Science 339

Phone: 903-886-5389

Course Time Zone: Central Time USA**Online Office Hours:** I will be available during the week by appointment using the video conferencing service Zoom, during which you can ask questions. If you are on campus, you can also come by my office to ask questions in person.**Course Materials**

Textbook: Organic Chemistry, Concepts and Applications" 1st Edition, Headley, A. D., John Wiley & Sons; ISBN-13: 9781119504672. The Student Companion website for the textbook is: <http://bcs.wiley.com/hebcs/Books?action=index&bcsId=11621&itemId=1119504589>

Supplementary textbook (not required): *Organic Chemistry, 8th Ed.*, L. G. Wade, Jr. ISBN-13: 978-0321768414 ** A newer edition is the 9th edition but I am fine with you using an older edition of the text to reduce your textbook cost, 9th edition: ISBN-13: 978-0321971371

A molecular model set is recommended. I suggest the Molecular Visions Organic Model Kit by Darling Models, Inc. which can be found used for ~ \$20.00 (I have this set and find it very useful and convenient to use). Note that models may also be used during exams. This site also has suitable model sets: <https://duluthlabs.com/>

The details of the course structure are given below. Any changes will be communicated via email and announcement on MyLeo Online. Your ETAMU email account will be used at all times, and it will be your responsibility to check it regularly (at least once every 24 hours).

Course Description: 3 Semester Hours: An integrated introductory course in organic chemistry. The reactions of aliphatic compounds are considered in terms of molecular orbital theory, carbonium ion, carbanion and free radical reaction mechanisms; stereochemistry and molecular conformations, transition state theory and principles of organic synthesis are covered. Prerequisites: CHEM 1312 with a grade of "C" or better or consent of the instructor. Corequisites: CHEM 201.

Grading

Your course grade (1000 points total) will be broken down as follows: four exams (200 points each, 20% each, 80% total of the course grade) and a comprehensive final examination (200 points, 20% of the course grade). The final exam will be a comprehensive exam over all material covered in the lecture. The key and score distribution for each of the first four exams will be e-

mailed out after each exam. All exams will be open book although it is strongly recommended that you do not rely on a textbook for an exam as you likely will not have time to refer to one since the exams are timed.

There will be absolutely no make-ups for exams. If you miss one of the first four exams, the points for the missed exam will be placed on the final exam making your final exam a greater proportion of your final course grade. If you miss more than one exam you will be assigned a grade of zero for the missed assignment(s). The last drop date for the course is *June 22, 2026*. Grading will be based on a standard percentage scale: 100-90 = A; 89-80 = B; 79-70 = C; 69-60 = D; 59-below = F. Dishonest scholarship will earn an automatic zero (0) and initiate prosecution to the fullest extent. Incomplete grades may be given only if the student has a current average $\geq 70\%$ and is precluded from completion of the course by a documented illness or family crisis.

You will only be able to take exams once. Once you begin taking an exam, you will have a time limit of 3 hours to complete it. Once completed, you cannot return to it and revise your answers. After everyone completes and submits their exam, you will see your score, what answers you got wrong and the correct answers. I will e-mail out a key to each exam once the exams are graded.

Lecture Learning Outcomes / Course Objectives

By the end of the semester I intend for my students to have realized a number of objectives.

1. All students must be able to readily identify various functional groups found in organic molecules.
2. Know the nature of the bonding in organic compounds and the basics of IUPAC nomenclature.
3. Relate the structure and functional groups found in a given molecule to their physical and chemical properties. This includes learning to predict reactivity of molecules.
4. Understand key elements of stereochemistry and the relationships between molecules such as enantiomers, diastereomers, conformers, etc.
5. Learn methods for interconversion of functional groups and the synthesis of some simple molecules from more readily available materials. This is important as nature does not provide everything we need but it does make the raw materials for their synthesis available.
6. Know the common mechanistic pathways in reactions such as substitution, elimination and addition.
7. Know the importance of organic chemistry and its relationship to various other disciplines such as biochemistry and medicinal chemistry and our daily lives.

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course: Pointers to Succeed

Useful Learning Techniques

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|--|---|
| 1. Read the chapter before watching video lectures | 11. Use flash cards |
| 2. Watch all online video lectures | 12. Use a study group (3-5 people) |
| 3. Take good notes as you watch the lectures | 13. Take advantage of instructor's help |
| 4. Ask questions if the material is not understood | 14. Take notes as you read the chapters |
| 5. Read the chapter several times | 15. Summarize your lecture notes |
| 6. Correct ALL exams & review them!!! | 16. Try the success center (test anxiety/tutor) |
| 7. Work all of the in-text problems | 17. Get a tutor |
| 8. Work ALL of the chapter end problems | 18. Use molecular models |
| 9. Study consistently!! | 19. Use instructors review notes/problems |
| 10. Use supplemental material/questions
(Internet, other textbooks, etc.) | |

This course demands the utmost in disciplined study habits, diligence in working problems, and the commitment to learn and understand the material. The only way to understand organic chemistry is to study on a consistent basis and take quality notes, work problems, ask questions, and *work more problems!* It is

NOT a good idea to memorize solutions to problems. Rather, you should learn the concept such that you can apply it to the understanding of similar problems. The exams will focus on current material and may include problems similar to those found in the text.

DO NOT GET BEHIND!!!! Work LOTS of problems...then work some more!!

The 3-dimensional structure of molecules will be of continual importance and model kits are highly recommended to help you to visualize. The recommended models are inexpensive and well suited to this class. Students planning to take Biochemistry may want to purchase the more expensive HGS model set that may be useful later on. *You are encouraged to bring models to all exams.* We will cover chapters 1-13 as scheduled in the outline. Refer to the solutions manual only after you have tried working the problem.

Tentative Schedule

Exam 1:	Tuesday	June 9th	Chapters 1, 2, 3
Exam 2:	Tuesday	June 16th	Chapters 4, 5, 6
Exam 3:	Wednesday	June 24th	Chapters 7, 8, 12
Exam 4:	Wednesday	July 1st	Chapters 9, 10, 13
Final Exam:	Thursday	July 2nd	Cumulative (Chapters 1-10, 12, 13)

**** exams will be scheduled during the evenings, most likely between 6-8 pm. Make arrangements to be available during this time on exam days. You will download the exam from D2L, print the exam (or complete the exam on an electronic device such as an iPad, scan the completed exam as a pdf file and upload the pdf file to D2L by the due time.**

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<u>June</u>	1st Chapter 1	2nd Finish Chap. 1 Chapter 2	3rd Chapter 2	4th Chapter 3	5th
<u>June</u>	8th Chapter 5	9th Chapter 5 Exam 1 Chapters 1-3	10th Chapter 4	11th Chapter 4 Chapter 6 Chapter 12 (spectroscopy only)	12th
<u>June</u>	15th Chapter 6 Chapter 13 (spectroscopy only)	16th Chapter 7 Exam 2 Chapters 4, 5, 6	17th Chapter 7	18th Chapter 8 Last day to drop	19th
<u>June</u>	22nd Chapter 8	23rd Chapter 9	24th Chapter 9 Exam 3 Chapters 7, 8, 12	25th Chapter 10	26th
<u>July</u>	29th Chapter 10	30th	1st Exam 4 Chapters 9, 10, 13	2nd Final Exam, Chapters 1-10, 12, 13	4th

Assigned Homework Problems

Organic chemistry is a problem-solving course. The problems given within the text of each chapter are designed to test your understanding as you read. You should work these problems as you read (some of the answers to these questions are provided at the back of the textbook). The end-of-the-chapter problems are more comprehensive, and represent the kind of questions you will see on exams. Several questions from each chapter are recommended for your self-study. These problems will not be collected nor graded because the answers are available in the solutions manual that accompanies the textbook. It is extremely important that you **WORK THESE PROBLEMS** because this will be the best way for you to access your understanding of the material. You should get started on these problems **AS SOON AS POSSIBLE** so that you will have plenty of time to understand them. Yes, the answers are given in the study guide, but this false “short-cut” (copying answers) leads directly to failing grades. The procedure outlined below provides a proven method for developing your problem solving skills:

1. After reading the text and working all of the in-text problems find a quiet desk and attempt to solve the assigned problems in an **EXAM STYLE** situation, just you, your model set, and a pencil. Set a timer for 50 minutes and try working the problems. Do not look back in your book, talk to anyone else about it, or be within 25 ft of the solution manual. Not all problems have the same level of difficulty; so if you get stuck on one, move on to the next (just like you do on an exam to get the best score). Go back and work the problems you had difficulty with before, and see if you can now solve them. If you can't, you now know what to review in the next step.
2. **REVIEW** your class notes covering the material and the appropriate sections from the text, and use this information to try to solve the problems again. Don't get within 25 ft of the solutions manual or you will terminate the development of your problem solving abilities.
3. **DISCUSS** your work with other students from the class in **SMALL GROUPS OF 4-5 OR FEWER**. The formation of effective study groups is a great way to facilitate learning. Talk about the problems you have solved, and the ones you still haven't figured out. Visit the **PROFESSOR** during office hours, bring your notebook and show what you have tried to do. Visit the **TEACHING ASSISTANT** (if applicable) for further discussion.
4. The last stage in the process is to **CHECK YOUR ANSWERS** against those from the solutions manual / posted answers. Do you agree with the answers given and the way they were solved? By following this plan you will develop effective problem solving skills and build confidence in your abilities, so that you will be ready for exam day.

***I HIGHLY recommend working ALL of the chapter end problems! ***

Interaction with Instructor Statement

The best way to communicate with the instructor is via e-mail: stephen.starnes@etamu.edu or stop by the instructor's office (Science 339) for clarification of course material and expectations.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

LMS

All course sections offered by East Texas A&M University have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:

https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm

Zoom Video Conferencing Tool

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@etamu.edu.

Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a ETAMU campus open computer lab, etc.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:

<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES FOR COURSE

CWID and Password

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@etamu.edu.

Technology-Related Issues

Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a ETAMU campus open computer lab, etc.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS AND SUPPORT

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Students will need reliable computer and internet access for this course. Students must be able to effectively use myLeo email, myLeo Online D2L, and Microsoft Office.

Learning Management System (LMS) – D2L

All course sections offered by East Texas A&M University have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are the technical requirements:

- View the [Learning Management System Requirements Webpage](#).
- Learn more on the [LMS Browser Support Webpage](#).

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found on the [Brightspace Support Webpage](#).

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Interaction with Instructor Statement

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your instructor. Correspondence will always be through university email (your “myLeo” mail) and announcements in myLeo online (D2L). You will not RECEIVE email through D2L, so be sure to check your ETAMU email for communication. Students are encouraged to check university email daily.

Include the Following in Emails with Instructor:

- Course name and subject in the subject line
- Salutation (Good afternoon, Dr. Jackson)
- Proper email etiquette (no “text” emails – use proper grammar and punctuation)
- Student name and CWID after the body of the email (possibly add to student signature on email)

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The [Code of Student Conduct](#) is described in detail online in the [Student Guidebook](#).

Students should also consult the [Rules of Netiquette Webpage](#) for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum.

ETAMU Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy, please view the Attendance Webpage and the Class Attendance Policy. <https://www.etamu.edu/attendance/>
https://coursecatalog.tamuc.edu/undergrad/academic-procedures/#class_attendance_rule

Academic Integrity

Students at East Texas A&M University are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty University Procedure 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

[Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty University Procedure 13.99.99.R0.10](#)

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

Use of Artificial Intelligence

East Texas A&M University acknowledges that there are legitimate uses of Artificial Intelligence, ChatBots, or other software that has the capacity to generate text, or suggest replacements for text beyond individual words, as determined by the instructor of the course.

Any use of such software must be documented. Any undocumented use of such software constitutes an instance of academic dishonesty (plagiarism).

Individual instructors may disallow entirely the use of such software for individual assignments or for the entire course. Students should be aware of such requirements and follow their instructors' guidelines. If no instructions are provided the student should assume that the use of such software is disallowed.

In any case, students are fully responsible for the content of any assignment they submit, regardless of whether they used an AI, in any way. This specifically includes cases in which the AI plagiarized another text or misrepresented sources

Students with Disabilities-- ADA Statement

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

East Texas A&M University
Velma K. Waters Library Rm 162
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
Email: studentdisabilityservices@etamu.edu
Website: [Office of Student Disability Services](#)

Nondiscrimination Notice

East Texas A&M University will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information, or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in East Texas A&M University buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and ETAMU Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all East Texas A&M University campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

East Texas A&M Supports Students' Mental Health – Counseling Services

The Counseling Center at East Texas A&M University, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit www.tamuc.edu/counsel

Mental Health and Well-Being

The university aims to provide students with essential knowledge and tools to understand and support mental health. As part of our commitment to your well-being, we offer access to Telus Health, a service available 24/7/365 via chat, phone, or webinar. Scan the QR code to download the app and explore the resources available to you for guidance and support whenever you need it.

