

Organic Chemistry 1 — Chemistry 141B

Instructor	Severin T. Schneebeli
Email	Severin.Schneebeli@uvm.edu
Office	Discovery Building W108A
Phone	(802) 656-0252
Office Hours	1:30 – 2:30 PM, M/W/F or by Appointment
Class Meetings	3:30 – 4:45 PM, M/W, Billings — Ira Allen Lecture Hall
Review Sessions	7:35 – 8:35 PM, R, Marsh Life Sciences 235
Meeting Dates	28 Aug – 8 Dec 2017
UVM Holidays	Classes will not be held on: 4 Sept (Labor Day), 9 Oct (Fall Recess), and 20–24 Nov (Thanksgiving Recess)

1. Primary Learning Objectives. Know the basic organic chemistry skills needed to work in any field that involves current medicine, biology or materials science. These vital skills involve:

(i) Recognizing the atoms and bonding present in common functional groups, their resultant chemical properties, and likely reactions.

(ii) Creating rational curved-arrow mechanisms to predict the likely products of reactions.

All skills, reactions, and structures you learn throughout this semester are cumulative and will be applied to discussions later in the semester and into the spring.

2. Course Calendar. The course calendar is available on blackboard under “course tools”. You can import the calendar to other applications by clicking on “get external calendar link”. However, please note that by importing the calendar, you might not automatically receive updates!

3. Piazza. This term we will be using Piazza for class discussion. The system is catered to getting you help fast and efficiently from classmates, the TA, and myself. Rather than emailing questions to the teaching staff, I encourage you to post your questions on Piazza. If you have any problems or feedback for the developers, email please team@piazza.com.

Find our class page at: <https://piazza.com/uvm/fall2017/chem141b/home>

4. I-Clickers. I-Clicker questions (starting the second week) will be asked regularly during lectures. They will go a long way in keeping you engaged and well-prepared for class. Please register your i-clicker ON BLACKBOARD by clicking the “i-clicker Student Registration” link. It is your responsibility to always bring your I-clicker with you in proper working condition as there is no makeup mechanism for missed questions. If necessary, please purchase an i-clicker — e.g. from the UVM bookstore for \$46.65.

Your answers to the clicker questions will count (see also section 11) toward your final grade. The lowest 30% of your clicker grades will be dropped. Therefore, you have nothing to worry about if your clicker doesn't function properly a few times or if you need to miss a few class meetings.

5. Thursday Evening Reviews. Each Friday, I will email (and post on Blackboard) a few problems to be discussed at the following Thursday evening (7:35 – 8:35 PM, Marsh Life Sciences 235) review session. This is a perfect opportunity to practice problems and work through some of the tricky points in regards to the new concepts discussed in class. The review questions are not graded but many students find attending the review sessions very helpful. I usually bring some treats for volunteers and the atmosphere is less formal and more conversational than the regular lectures.

6. Weekly Homework. I will be using Sapling Learning (please sign up for \$30 on <http://www.saplinglearning.com>) for weekly graded quizzes associated with the lectures. These must be completed by 11:55 pm on the Sunday of the week posted for credit. The first quiz is due September 17. The schedule for the quizzes is posted on blackboard.

7. Laboratory. Laboratories start the week of September 11. Logistics will be discussed the week prior.

8. Examinations. All examinations are cumulative. They will take place at the following times:

Midterm Exam 1	Thursday, 28 September, 7:35 – 10:35 PM
Midterm Exam 2	Thursday, 26 October, 7:35 – 10:35 PM
Midterm Exam 3	Thursday, 16 November, 7:35 – 10:35 PM
Final Exam	Thursday, 14 December, 1:30 – 4:15 PM

Locations for all examinations are determined by the first letter of your last name.

Midterm Exams: A–N = Marsh Life Sciences 235, O–Z = Votey 105.

Final Exam: A–Z = Billings LH.

Any conflicts with an exam date or time must be resolved at least a week in advance. Alternate exam times/dates will only be considered in exceptional circumstances and must always be PRIOR to scheduled exam times. This policy is in place for fairness and therefore no exceptions can be granted, i.e. there will be no late/makeup exams. Failure to attend an examination (even if explained after the fact) will result in a numerical score of zero for the respective test.

9. Required Supplies

Textbook	David R. Klein, <i>Organic Chemistry</i> , 3 rd ed., 2017, John Wiley & Sons, Inc, ISBN: 978-1-119-31615-2
Study Guide	David R. Klein, <i>Organic Chemistry Student Solution Manual/Study Guide</i> , 3 rd ed., 2017, John Wiley & Sons, Inc, ISBN: 978-1-119-42253-2
Homework	Online access to Sapling Learning (lecture quizzes, \$30)
I-Clicker	Please register your i-clicker on blackboard
Laboratory	Laboratory Notebook and SAFETY GLASSES

10. Recommended Supplies

Book David R. Klein, *Organic Chemistry As a Second Language: First Semester Topics*, any ed., 2017, John Wiley & Sons, Inc, ISBN: 978-1-118-01040-2

Model Kit HGS Molecular Structure Model Kit: Organic Chemistry

11. Course Grade. The course grade will be based on three mid-semester exams and a compulsory, cumulative final exam. Of the three mid-terms, the lowest grade will be dropped. No curves are applied to the mid-semester exams and the class average for the exams may vary depending on the complexity of the material. Try your best on all the exams. Attendance at a midterm exam is not required and zero can be considered as your lowest grade. The final exam grade will not be dropped.

Each mid-semester exam will constitute 15% of your grade, the Final will constitute 25%, providing 55% of your course grade. The laboratory component of the course will deliver 25%. The final 20% will come from the Sapling Learning online homework (10%) as well as the I-Clicker questions (10%).

Table 1 | Calculation of the final course grade.

Midterm Examinations (best two 15% each)	30%
Final Examination	25%
Laboratory Grade	25%
Sapling Learning weekly graded homework	10%
I-Clicker questions (lowest 30% dropped)	10%
	100%

12. Course Etiquette. Organic Chemistry has a scary reputation. It is best thought of as a new language or skill. As with any skill, some people can become adept faster than others. All of you are capable of successfully completing this course with the right attitude and determination.

Recommendations —

1. Attend class with a clear and inquisitive attitude.
2. While in class FOCUS on understanding the material. Do NOT text, check Facebook or e-mails. Doing so is a waste of your time and money, in addition to being disrespectful to me and the other students around you who are trying to learn.
3. After class, (i) review the material, (ii) read the sections in the textbook, and (iii) watch any available lecture videos. Furthermore, (iv) try the recommended problems, (v) work on the weekly problem set for Thursday, and (vi) finish the weekly graded online problems for Sunday. Remember: You will be required to study for this course at least nine hours per week (three hours for each credit) outside of class.
4. Communicate respectfully with your fellow students, your TAs and me. All the challenges presented to you are designed to encourage you to learn the material.
5. Try to find answers to your own questions by checking the course syllabus, laboratory logistics, blackboard, or the Piazza discussion forum. Then, if you still don't find the answer, after looking, either start a new discussion thread on Piazza (which I will make a priority to answer) or check in with me or your TA. Always ask yourself: "Would you stand in line to have this question answered?"

6. All course materials (both yours and mine) are protected by copyright. I cannot copy or post your written material and you cannot post any course materials such as blanks of the exam, reviews, or notes online. Lectures may not be recorded without my written permission.
7. All students are expected to honor the UVM codes of conduct and academic integrity as specified in more detail in section 13.
8. Post-bac premed students: Please do NOT solicit letters of recommendation. I will make offers as merited.
9. Work hard and have fun!!

13. Academic Conduct. Cheating or plagiarism will be considered grounds for failing the course (a numerical score of zero). All graded assignments must be your own work. Cases of cheating or plagiarism will lead to further disciplinary action, which may include dismissal from the University according to the rules set forth in the University of Vermont's Code of Academic Integrity: <http://www.uvm.edu/~uvmppg/ppg/student/acadintegrity.pdf>

14. Student Learning Accommodations. In keeping with University policy, any student with a documented disability interested in utilizing accommodations should contact ACCESS, the office of Disability Services on campus. More information (including contact information) can be found online at www.uvm.edu/access. ACCESS works with students and faculty in an interactive process to explore reasonable and appropriate accommodations via an accommodation letter to faculty with recommended accommodations as early as possible each semester.

15. Amendments. The professor reserves the right to make changes to the syllabus, including homework due dates and test dates (excluding the officially scheduled final examination), when unforeseen circumstances occur. These changes will be announced as early as possible so that students can adjust their schedules.