CHEM232-01:Organic Chemistry

Jump to Today

CHEM 232 Organic Chemistry, Spring 2026

Course Information

Instructor: Prof. Mike Bergdahl
bbergdahl@sdsu.edu (mailto:bbergdahl@sdsu.edu) (answers asap or within 24 h following weekends)
Office Location: CSL 202
Office Hours Times: MW, 11am-1pm
Office Hours Location: CSL 202

Lectures: 10:00 AM–10:50 AM
Class Location: AL 201

Canvas Course website: https://sdsu.instructure.com/courses/194577 (https://sdsu.instructure.com/courses/194577)

Chem 232 is a "Day1Ready Course." For Day1Ready, please use the following info link Day1Ready page here (https://u5665484.ct.sendgrid.net/ls/click?upn=u001.-2BohpaqWDbR1DlXXYinAvWQPPLFJvZbMlmB9q7OH15oGPHCdwi83kABC0x-2BTts07S9dpX_RZi-2BWy8S4gQZUj7b4vr5TVX-2FJKHrsKWXb0tRx-2FOh9C0EQoqlEWiGsSi7YTiJawlWuVZ3bOPmSCRK9ivB6PtjUFqjlZevw-2F-2BA7XGf-2F1UFqWyToURYelzZAwe9l-2BRWVyRqRZltN0VMz-2BeOrox4Vht-2FLqtmprgezXqCm6TeoStZMnS12bxWqBGqeDBEl6nuVtal20dEaX0E9lC0bmydH-2FB8ZBxrpoXbcD3bKlz0x-2F5XfGrBbi1NTNDYPazVVtxm3k8vbruLVlXHFU-2FOuBCxxaLXy3YzDrDwWC-2B14fXSvvdf0r7bevYBl3RxJVrQJTpxozukJzPM-2BrEsVxpUvDlnFGP75Q-3D-3D)

Lab Coordinator: Prof. Mike Bergdahl (bbergdahl@sdsu.edu (mailto:jmillstone@sdsu.edu))

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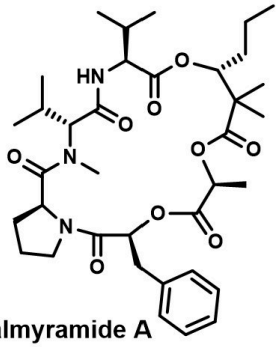
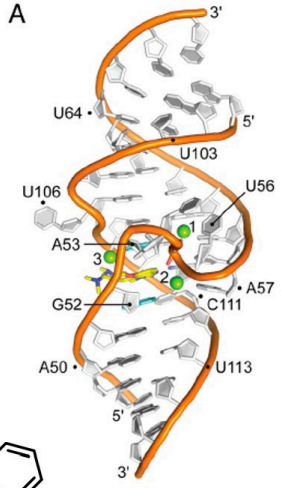
Natural Product Synthesis and Chemical Methodology

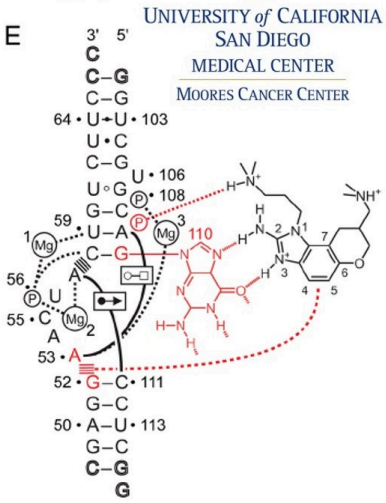
- Natural products in fighting diseases
- Powerful new anticancer agents
- Small molecules in medicinal chemistry
- Targeted battle of the hepatitis C virus
- New chemical methodology
- FUN in the lab……

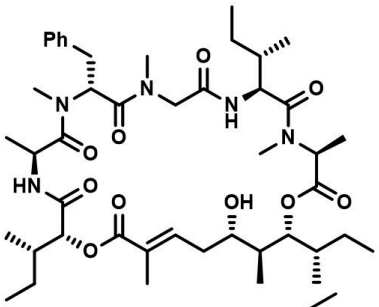


Palmyramide A

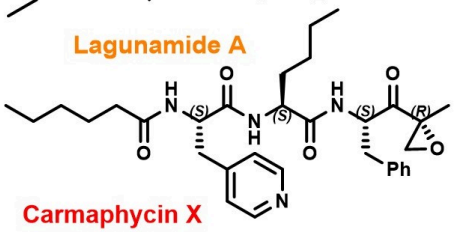
IC_{50} 9 nM HCT-119 colon cells





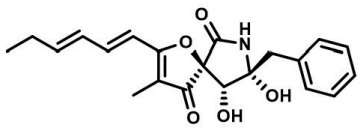


Lagunamide A

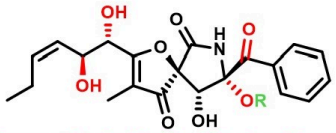


Carmaphycin X

IC_{50} 62 pM HepG2 liver cells

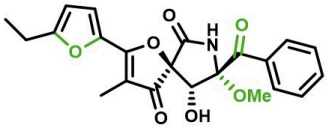


Azaspirene (1) (anti-cancer)

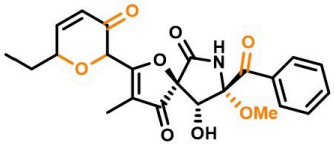


Pseurotin A (2), R = Me (anti-fungal)

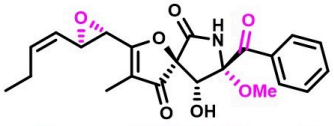
Pseurotin F_2, R = H



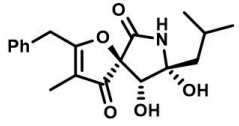
FD-838 (3) (anti-bacterial)



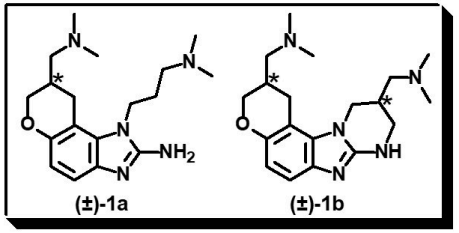
FD-839 (4) (anti-cancer)

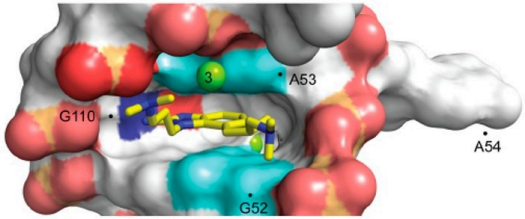


Synerazol (5) (anti-fungal)



Berkeleyamide D (6)





Dear Student!

Welcome to Chem 232, first semester organic chemistry. The nature of organic chemistry is that the schedule moves fast, so you will need to be on top of your responsibilities. Feel free to email your instructor or TA if you have any questions.

You are currently logged into Student View

Resetting the test student will clear all history for this student, allowing you to view the course as a brand new student.

Reset Student

Leave Student View

*"Organic chemistry is widely regarded as one of the most challenging courses in the college curriculum, not because it requires memorizing vast amounts of information, but because it demands a **deep understanding of patterns, logic, and chemical behavior**. Success in this course comes from learning how and why reactions occur, rather than attempting to memorize reactions, mechanisms, or structures in isolation. Students are strongly encouraged to focus on mastering foundational concepts such as structure–function relationships, acid–base behavior, resonance, stereochemistry, and reaction mechanisms, as these ideas reappear throughout the course in increasingly sophisticated ways. Problem-solving should be an active process: work problems regularly, redraw mechanisms by hand, predict outcomes before looking at answers, and reflect on mistakes to understand the underlying concept. Embrace organic chemistry as a **skill-based discipline**, similar to learning a new language, where fluency develops through consistent practice and thoughtful engagement. With steady effort, curiosity, and the willingness to think conceptually rather than memorize, the material becomes more intuitive, manageable, and ultimately rewarding."*

Day1Ready Course:

*Chem 232 is a "**Day1Ready Course."** For Day1Ready, please use the following info link* ***Day1Ready page here*** ***(https://u5665484.ct.sendgrid.net/ls/click?upn=u001.-2BohpaqWDbR1DlXXYinAvWQPPLFJvZbMlmB9q7OH15oGPHCdwi83kABC0x-2BTts07S9dpX_RZi-2BWy8S4gQZUj7b4vr5TVX-2FJKHrsKWXb0tRx-2FOh9C0EQoqlEWiGsSi7YTiJawlWuVZ3bOPmSCRK9ivB6PtjUFqjlZevw-2F-2BA7XGf-2F1UFqWyToURYeIzZAwe9I-2BRWVyRqRZltN0VMz-2BeOrox4Vht-2FLqtmprgezXqCm6TeoStZMnS12bxWqBGqeDBEl6nuVtaI20dEaX0E9lC0bmydH-2FB8ZBxrpoXbcD3bKlz0x-2F5XfGrBbi1NTNDYPazVVtxm3k8vbruLVlXHFU-2FOuBCxxaLXy3YzDrDwWC-2B14fXSvvdf0r7bevYBl3RxJVrQJTpxozukJzPM-2BrEsVxpUvDlnFGP75Q-3D-3D)*.

The required course materials for this class are provided in a digital format by the first day of classes and are free through the add/drop date, using *for Organic Chemistry, by Solomons 13e*. WileyPLUS is included in the eBook. To access, click on the Wiley Course Resources link in the Canvas navigation menu. Your WileyPLUS account will be created automatically with the same email you used to sign into Canvas. Your SDSU student account will then be charged a special reduced price for use of the materials for the remainder of the semester unless you opt-out by 11:59 PM on Feb. 2. (Course add/drop deadline)

Here is a useful link on how to access WileyPLUS (aka Wiley Course Resources which includes the ebook):

If you have questions related to access, the following link might be useful for support **RedShelf Solve** (https://u5665484.ct.sendgrid.net/ls/click?upn=u001.-2BohpaqWDbR1DlXXYinAvWcetZgXbrnuUKbxR8uOEs-2BqXbwuaL-2Ffs1DiiEFUHMtTgi2r3_RZi-2BWy8S4gQZUj7b4vr5TVX-2FJKHrsKWXb0tRx-2FOh9C0EQoqlEWiGsSi7YTiJawlWXbBUgJ8VBmB2lT2lDtwzUfkXR3lVaCPwsJP-2ByzAlCtRdekAQi-2BRZ5TI7Y6Dsuzolim2RkEunVRgdn6kW0pMaSleH2YfvU7WBuvwGQ4GAXszhVH9Osl-2BQKUfw-2B0K9maGEESLWqzsNpa6XePAD2LdOJLBkjdzhZvLat7BDxtOuMl08JvK-2BE2FM8AnFCgYq3-2B8cChV-2BRCZalfhk8VJD13-2B27NkBL0qzcGQ-2F377fVKEreNoaHOYUDfMYBV6G9fsletvXgTxEfNPOExiRVgkyEtV0VA-3D-3D) or email **d1r@sdsu.edu** (mailto:d1r@sdsu.edu).

Please note that if your course is using/not using access codes in Equitable Access or Immediate Access, please review the *How to Access Content through Inclusive Access* section on **this page** (https://u5665484.ct.sendgrid.net/ls/click?upn=u001.-2BohpaqWDbR1DlXXYinAvWcetZgXbrnuUKbxR8uOEs-2BpkdgF4KTarPL8g5K6jd7-2BZquFiZRvQStnkXzsll77Jtccd1uDZTwxCuXBwt6RlAvj4MEtRRFKu7GVJakhFoS4wyuNs_RZi-2BWy8S4gQZUj7b4vr5TVX-2FJKHrsKWXb0tRx-2FOh9C0EQoqlEWiGsSi7YTiJawlWXbBUgJ8VBmB2lT2lDtwzUfkXR3lVaCPwsJP-2ByzAlCtRdekAQi-2BRZ5TI7Y6Dsuzolim2RkEunVRgdn6kW0pMaSleH2YfvU7WBuvwGQ4GAXszhVH9Osl-2BQKUfw-2B0K9maGErc853riG3jiLcBsyaDDsCYkxLu-2BnZ82jXBTTjtX-2FSM8bYNIQy6Ap5ejq1NYK1L-2FTycvcGuMYSybSEUminUABYX4bA2d2liz4GKWJJQ9zVEoQy-2FMsUGOMb-2B9fhN2wMg1XvxhQfrf0lKXhbwfHh8SgYg-3D-3D).

And WileyPLUS chat support **https://wpsupport.wiley.com/s/** (https://wpsupport.wiley.com/s/)

Course schedule:

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Lecture and Exam schedule; Chem 232, Spring 2026

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
19-Jan Holiday MLK Day	20-Jan	21-Jan Chapter 1 Introduction	22-Jan	23-Jan Ch.1 cont.	
26-Jan Chapter 2	27-Jan	28-Jan Ch.2 cont.	29-Jan	30-Jan Ch.2 cont.	
02-Feb Ch.2 cont.	03-Feb	04-Feb Ch.2 cont.	05-Feb	06-Feb Chapter 3	
09-Feb Ch.3 cont.	10-Feb	11-Feb Ch.3 cont.	12-Feb	13-Feb Ch.3 cont.	14-Feb Midterm 1
16-Feb Chapter 4	17-Feb	18-Feb Ch.4 cont.	19-Feb	20-Feb Ch.4 cont.	
23-Feb Ch.4 cont.	24-Feb	25-Feb Ch.4 cont.	26-Feb	27-Feb Chapter 5	
02-Mar Ch.5 cont.	03-Mar	04-Mar Ch.5 cont.	05-Mar	06-Mar Ch.5 cont.	
09-Mar Chapter 6	10-Mar	11-Mar Ch.6 cont.	12-Mar	13-Mar Ch.6 cont.	14-Mar Midterm 2
16-Mar Ch.6 cont.	17-Mar	18-Mar Chapter 7	19-Jan	20-Mar Ch.7 cont.	

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30-Mar *Spring Break*	31-Mar *Holiday* *Cesar Chavez*	01-Apr *Spring Break*	02-Apr *Spring Break*	03-Apr *Spring Break*	
06-Apr *Chapter 8*	07-Apr	08-Apr *Ch.8 cont.*	09-Apr	10-Apr *Ch.8 cont.*	11-Apr *Explore SDSU*
13-Apr *Ch.8 cont.*	14-Apr	15-Apr *Ch.8 cont.*	16-Apr	17-Apr *Chapter 10*	18-Apr *Midterm 3*
20-Apr *Ch.10 cont.*	21-Apr	22-Apr *Ch.10 cont.*	23-Apr	24-Jan *Chapter 11*	
27-Apr *Ch.11 cont.*	28-Apr	29-Apr *Ch.11 cont.*	30-Apr	01-May *Ch.11 cont.*	
04-May *Ch.11 cont.*	05-May	06-May *Review*	07-May *Last day of class*	08-May *Final's Week Begins*	09-May *Final Exam*
11-May	12-May	13-May	14-May	15-May	

Midterm Exam Dates: Feb 14, Mar 14, and Apr 18; 10:00 am - Noon
Final Exam: Saturday May 9, 9:30 - 11:30 am ("Group Final")

Land Acknowledgment

"For millennia, the Kumeyaay people have been a part of this land. This land has nourished, healed, protected and embraced them for many generations in a relationship of balance and harmony. As members of the San Diego State University community

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Midterm Exams

Exam Format: In person exams.
Saturday, Feb 14, 10 – Noon.
Saturday, Mar 14, 10 – Noon.
Saturday, Apr 18, 10 – Noon.

Final Exam

Exam Format: In person exam.
Saturday, May 9, 9:30 – 11:30 AM. The final exam is cumulative, focus on Chapters 6 - 11 (except 9)

A grade of "C" (Not "C-") or better from Chem 201 (SDSU) or corresponding chemistry course.

Course Information

Updated information is available on the course Canvas site through SDSU. Lectures will be recorded and posted the same day via SDSU media site.

Course Catalog Description

Prerequisite(s): CHEM 201 (https://catalog.sdsu.edu/content.php?filter%5B27%5D=CHEM&filter%5B29%5D=232&filter%5Bcourse_type%5D=-1&filter%5Bkeyword%5D=&filter%5B32%5D=1&filter%5Bcpage%5D= with a grade of C (2.0) or better. Concurrent registration in CHEM 232L (https://catalog.sdsu.edu/content.php?filter%5B27%5D=CHEM&filter%5B29%5D=232&filter%5Bcourse_type%5D=-1&filter%5Bkeyword%5D=&filter%5B32%5D=1&filter%5Bcpage%5D= is required, unless you already passed the lab and only need to repeat the lecture content of Chem 232.

Scope and Purpose

This course is the first in a two-semester study of the fundamentals of organic chemistry. The course will focus on how to use molecular structure to predict and understand the properties and chemical reactivity of organic molecules, with examples drawn from industrial process chemistry, medicinal chemistry, and biological chemistry.

Students should meet the following **general learning outcomes** as a minimum requirement in order to pass the course. A detailed list of learning outcomes will be developed and provided chapter-by-chapter, throughout the semester.

1. Understand physical properties of organic compounds and fundamental chemical reactions in organic chemistry.
2. Determine bonding, hybridization, Lewis structures, three-dimensional structure, conformation, and stereochemistry of organic molecules.
3. Show chemical mechanisms for fundamental organic reactions using the curved arrow formalism (“arrow pushing”).
4. Determine and differentiate various types of simple organic reactions, for example S_N1, S_N2, E1 and E2 pathways, radical chain

7. Be able to apply and use the outcomes above in more advanced courses such as upper division organic chemistry (CHEM 432), biochemistry, and more advanced organic chemistry courses.
8. Explore the historical achievements of diverse chemists in their field of chemistry or organic chemical reactions.

Course Outline, Assigned Reading, Highly Recommended Study Problems from Solomons 13e, Electronic Homework.

Introduction: A good preparation for the course is to review material from Chem 201/200 (esp. fundamentals of chemical reactions, acidity/basicity, pka, hybridization, bonding, & resonance), which will be expanded in Chapters 1,2 and 3 in this course.

Chapter 1: The Basics, Bonding and Molecular Structure. Read pp. 1-53. Practice Problems: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28. WileyPlus Homework Problems: 29, 30, 31, 32, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 47, 50.

Chapter 2: Families of Carbon Compounds. Read pp. 54-105. Practice Problems: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27. WileyPlus Homework Problems: 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 46.

Chapter 3: Acids and Bases. Read pp. 106-147. Practice Problems: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19. WileyPlus Homework Problems: 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38.

Chapter 4: Nomenclature and Conformations of Alkanes and Cycloalkanes. Read pp. 148-197. Practice Problems: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21. WileyPlus Homework Problems: 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 33, 36, 37, 38, 39, 41, 43, 44, 45.

Chapter 5: Stereochemistry. Read pp. 198-245. Practice Problems: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31. WileyPlus Homework Problems: 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 42, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48.

Chapter 6: Nucleophilic Reactions. Read pp. 246-288. Practice Problems: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19. WileyPlus Homework Problems: 20, 21, 22, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 39, 40, 41.

Chapter 7: Alkenes and Alkynes I. Read pp. 289-344. Practice Problems: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19

54.

Chapter 10: Radical Reactions. Read pp. 454-495. Practice Problems: 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16. WileyPlus Homework Problems: 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33.

Chapter 11: Alcohols and Ethers. Read pp. 496-544. Practice Problems: 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24. WileyPlus Homework Problems: 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 51, 52.

Adding/Dropping Procedures

Feb 2 is the last day to add/drop classes. The enrollment is limited, and students can request do be added prior the add deadline.

Essential Student Information

- Your **SDSU email address (https://gsuite.sdsu.edu/)** will be used for all course-related communications.
- The **Student Conduct Code (https://newscenter.sdsu.edu/student_affairs/srr/conduct.aspx)** prohibits conduct disruptive to instruction, including academic dishonesty and the unauthorized recording, dissemination, or publication (including on websites or social media) of lectures or other course materials.
- SDSU provides disability-related accommodations via the Student Ability Success Center (sascinfo@sdsu.edu | **edu/sasc (http://sdsu.edu/sasc)**). Please allow 10-14 business days for this process.
- The **Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (http://bfa.sdsu.edu/hr/oerc/students/ferpa.aspx)** (FERPA) mandates the protection of student information, including contact information, grades, and graded assignments. I will not post grades or leave graded assignments in public places. Students will be notified at the time of an assignment if copies of student work will be retained beyond the end of the semester or used as examples for future students or the wider public.
- As an instructor, one of my responsibilities is to help create a safe learning environment on our campus. I am required to share information regarding sexual violence on SDSU's campus with the **Title IX (http://titleix.sdsu.edu/)** coordinator, Gail Mendez (619-594-6464), who will contact you to let you know about support services at SDSU and possibilities for holding accountable the person who harmed you. If you do not want the Title IX Officer notified, you can speak confidentially SDSU's Sexual Violence Victim Advocate

- Need help finding an advisor, tutor, counselor, emergency economic assistance, or other support? Contact the **SDSU Student Success Help Desk (https://studentsuccess.sdsu.edu/)** Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM. For technical or computing assistance, contact the **Library Computing Hub (https://virtual-academic-help.sdsu.edu/technology)** .

Course Materials

Custom course materials (lecture slides, old exams etc.) will be posted on Canvas. Do not share them in violation of copyright. See below, in orange text.

Unauthorized recording or dissemination of virtual course instruction or materials by students, especially with the intent to disrupt normal university operations or facilitate academic dishonesty, is a violation of the Student Conduct Code. This includes posting of exam problems, the instructor's lecture slides and other original materials, or questions to online platforms. Violators may be subject to discipline.

Textbook (Required)

Organic Chemistry, 13e., by Solomons, Fryhle, and Snyder, Wiley Publ. 2022; ISBN: 978-1-119-80131-3. Material is available via "Equitable Access," including the required WileyPlus.

Student Study Guide and Solutions Manual (Highly recommended for checking your HW assignments)

Not included in the WileyPlus package, but can be purchased electronically from the bookstore for ~ $20 at: **https://shopaztecs.redshelf.com/app/ecom/book/2115224/organic-chemistry-student-study-guide-solutions-manual-2115224-9781119768258-t-w-graham-solomons-craig-b-fryhle-scott-a-snyder (https://shopaztecs.redshelf.com/app/ecom/book/2115224/organic-chemistry-student-study-guide-solutions-manual-2115224-9781119768258-t-w-graham-solomons-craig-b-fryhle-scott-a-snyder)**

Electronic Homework

WileyPLUS is included with the eTextbook listed above and will be used for homework in this course. The electronic homework is the **WileyPlus Homework Problems** (above) from the back of each chapter. Each chapter **WileyPlus Homework Problem** set is worth 15p.

Other Learning Materials Each chapter in the text has the highly recommended non-graded problems (**Practice Problems**) found within

Old exams and Course Tools In the "**Modules**" section you will find a lot of goodies useful in the course: posted lecture slides, lecture recordings, study skills, reference sheets, "Learning Glass" video recordings (Chapter 1-5), and old exams.

Required Equipment Computer or laptop in order to access the course material

Course Structure and Conduct

Canvas will be used for all course management and as a general platform of communication.

Course Assessment, Grading and Exam Policy. No Make-up Exams!

There will be **three midterm exams** during the semester, each worth **100 points**. Please refer to the **exam and lecture schedule** on this page for specific dates.

The **final exam** is **cumulative** and worth **200 points**. If your **final exam percentage score** is higher than your **lowest midterm exam percentage score**, the final exam percentage will replace that lowest midterm score. In effect, this policy allows the final exam grade to replace one midterm exam grade—but only if it improves your overall score. Because organic chemistry can be particularly challenging at the beginning of the course and students often show significant improvement over time, this policy is designed to reward progress made later in the semester. **Study consistently and strategically**, and the learning curve will become less steep.

There are **no make-up exams**. If you must miss a midterm exam for any reason, that exam will be counted as the dropped midterm and replaced by your final exam percentage score, as described above. Please note that **all exams are administered in person** and are **not offered online**.

Final course grades **WILL NOT be curved**. Your grade will be based solely on your individual performance. The **expected grade cutoffs** are provided below.

There are **10 electronic homework assignments**, each worth **15 points**, for a total of **150 points**.

Midterm 1	100
Midterm 2	100
Midterm 3	100
Final Exam	200
Grand Total	**650**

Letter Grades will be assigned according to the following table. Scores will not be rounded.

Letter Grade	**Minimum Score / 650**
A	585
A−	552
B+	520
B	488
B−	455
C+	423
C	390
C−	358
D+	325
D	292
D	260

Students with Disabilities

If you are a student with approved testing accommodations, and want to take your exams at the **Test Accommodation Center** (**TAC**), it is your responsibility to schedule your exams online through SDS Connect. If you have a disability and believe you will need accommodations for this class but are not yet approved, it is your responsibility to contact the **Student Disability Center** (**SDS**) at (619) 594-6473 or **sds@sdsu.edu (mailto:sds@sdsu.edu)** . To avoid any delay in the receipt of your accommodations, you should contact SDS as soon as possible. Please note that accommodations are not retroactive, and accommodations based upon disability cannot be provided until you have notified your instructor about your desire to use your accommodations through SDS Connect. Your cooperation is appreciated. Here is also a useful link: **SDS Connect Guides for Students and Faculty (https://sds.sdsu.edu/connect#faculty-guide)**

Absences

- If you plan to be absent for a religious observance or holiday, notify me by the end of the first week of class.
- If you are absent more than five days due to illness or injury, you may contact **Student Health Services (http://shs.sdsu.edu/index.asp)** for help in communicating your absence.

Academic Honesty

Academic honesty is always vital and special attention was warranted during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The University adheres to a strict policy regarding cheating and plagiarism. These activities will not be tolerated in this class. Become familiar with the policy at <**https://newscenter.sdsu.edu/student_affairs/srr/conduct.aspx (https://newscenter.sdsu.edu/student_affairs/srr/conduct.aspx)** >. Any cheating or plagiarism will result in failing this class and a disciplinary review by Student Affairs. **Cheating, which includes unauthorized team work and the use of unauthorized resources or hired/voluntary help during exams, will not be tolerated.** I want you all to be proud of yourselves for working hard, learning lots, and doing a great job at a tough course, not ashamed of yourselves for having cheated in O Chem. I believe that everyone in this class has the ability and talent to do a great job and I'm committed to help you achieve your best, but there's no substitute for hard and honest work.

The University adheres to a strict **policy prohibiting cheating and plagiarism (http://go.sdsu.edu/student_affairs/srr/cheating-**

- Obtaining copies of a test, an examination, or other course material without the permission of the instructor.
- Collaborating with another or others in coursework without the permission of the instructor.
- Falsifying records, laboratory work, or other course data.
- Submitting work previously presented in another course, if contrary to the policies of the course.
- Altering or interfering with grading procedures.
- Assisting another student in any of the above.
- Using sources verbatim or paraphrasing without giving proper attribution (this can include phrases, sentences, paragraphs and/or pages of work).
- Copying and pasting work from an online or offline source directly and calling it one's own.
- Using information found from an online or offline source without giving the author credit.
- Replacing words or phrases from another source and inserting one's own words or phrases.

Under CSU policy, instructors must report instances of academic misconduct to the Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities for disciplinary review by the University, which may lead to probation, suspension, or expulsion. Instructors may also, at their discretion, penalize student grades on any assignment or assessment discovered to have been produced in an academically dishonest manner.

Extra Help

Help is available in a variety of forms.

- Online discussions on this Canvas site
- Office hours
- Discussions with your TA and your TA's office hours
- Tutors, see the info below about the ***MSLC***:
- Supplemental Instruction (SI)

Students are encouraged to make use of The Math & Science Learning Center (MSLC) for **free drop-in STEM tutoring**, located in the Love Library, Room 328. For a full list of courses tutored, opening hours etc., please visit the MSLC website: **https://mslc.sdsu.edu/ (https://mslc.sdsu.edu/)** . PowerPoint introduction: **Intro to MSLC for Students (https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1R3N9pqDaxsJoeyEQeqw_e95-GGDVRtFZ11ZjkRN7HZI/edit#slide=id.gf37e02bc2e_0_95)**

The MSLC is supported by your student success fee. We strongly encourage you to use this wonderful, **free resource**. Some students believe that they shouldn't need to ask for help, but research has shown that **the average grade for students who attend tutoring is higher** than those who don't seek such support.

TA Office Hours for select courses will also be held in the MSLC. Please check **https://mslc.sdsu.edu/ (https://mslc.sdsu.edu/ta-office-hours/)** to see TA hours for your course.

***Supplemental Instruction (SI)*:** Supplemental Instruction Sessions, free study sessions, will be offered each week, throughout the sixteen week course. SI is free and open to all students enrolled in this course. SI Sessions are facilitated by an SI Leader, a current student who just took the course and received a good grade, and has been trained to lead active-learning-based group sessions where students can improve their understanding of course material, review and discuss important concepts, develop study strategies, and prepare for exams. Students who participate in SI Sessions typically earn higher final course and exam grades than students who do not participate, sometimes by a half to a full letter grade.

Attend SI so you can get extra practice, meet other students in the course, and learn how to effectively study. To get the most out of SI, attend early and often.

SI Program Website: **https://bit.ly/SDSU_SI (https://bit.ly/SDSU_SI)**

Meet the SI Leaders (https://studentsuccess.sdsu.edu/supplemental-instruction/leaders)

Tips for Success

Do not fall behind. We will start with reviewing the fundamentals and build on them so that you can develop a deep understanding of how the structure of organic molecules determines their properties. Consequently, material later in the course will be much more difficult if you

understanding by problem solving exercises and discussion with your peers. You should be confident of your skills when heading into an exam. Obviously, this is much harder to achieve if you don't start preparing until the day before an exam.

You can't be a proficient scientist without a basis of factual knowledge, meaning that some memorization is an essential part of your education. That said, exams will be designed as much as possible to test your comprehension rather than focusing on rote memorization. For that reason, exam questions will use concepts that you've learned, but won't be identical those questions found on old exams and as practice problems.

Few people find organic chemistry easy to learn. You should expect to study hard to earn a great grade!

To the Student: How to Succeed in Organic Chemistry (and Science in General)

Organic chemistry is not a course that can be mastered by passive learning or short-term memorization. Success requires **consistent effort, active engagement, and disciplined study habits**. The strategies below are strongly recommended to help you succeed.

Develop strong study habits

- **Attend all lectures and laboratories.** Organic chemistry builds cumulatively; missing even one class can make subsequent material much more difficult to understand.
- **Take thorough and organized lecture notes.** Do not rely on posted slides alone. Writing mechanisms, structures, and examples by hand reinforces learning.
- **Use your lecture notes as a guide when "reading" the textbook.** The textbook is a reference and reinforcement tool, not a substitute for lecture. Write down questions as they arise and seek clarification promptly—either during office hours, in discussion, or by asking your instructor.
- **Complete all assigned and suggested homework problems.** Use the study guide or answer key to check your work, but only *after* you have attempted the problems independently. The difficulty of these problems closely reflects that of exam questions.

- **Study actively, not passively.** Redraw reactions, predict products, explain mechanisms out loud, and identify patterns rather than memorizing outcomes.
- **Work with others when appropriate.** Studying with a partner or forming a small study group can be highly beneficial. Work through problems individually first, then compare approaches and reasoning as a group.
- **Stay current with the material.** Falling behind makes it extremely difficult to catch up, as each topic builds on previous concepts.
- **Seek guidance early.** Talk with science faculty, advanced students, or advisors about effective strategies for this course. If needed, seek tutoring through your instructor or department.

Think conceptually

- **Focus on the "big picture."** Try to understand how each week's material connects to earlier topics and to the overall structure of the course. If this is unclear, ask your instructor for guidance.
- **Emphasize understanding over memorization.** Organic chemistry is governed by logic, structure, and chemical principles. Once concepts are understood, reactions and mechanisms become much easier to predict.
- **Apply what you learn.** Look for examples of organic chemistry in everyday life, medicine, biology, and industry. Making these connections deepens understanding and retention.
- **Cultivate scientific curiosity.** Ask *why* reactions occur, *how* structures influence reactivity, and *what* patterns repeat across different systems.

Maintain the right mindset

- **Stay organized.** Keep track of notes, assignments, and deadlines. Organization reduces stress and improves efficiency.
- **Maintain a positive attitude.** Confidence and persistence matter. Organic chemistry is challenging, but it is absolutely learnable.
- **Recognize the demands—and rewards—of science.** Science courses often require more self-discipline than many other majors, but they also offer deep intellectual satisfaction and valuable problem-solving skills.

Good luck in Chem 232!

Course Summary:

Date	Details	Due
Mon Mar 10, 2025	**Chapter 4 Homework** (https://sdsu.instructure.com/courses/194577/assignments/1815043)	due by 11:59pm
Mon Mar 17, 2025	**Chapter 5 Homework** (https://sdsu.instructure.com/courses/194577/assignments/1815044)	due by 11:59pm
Mon Apr 7, 2025	**Chapter 6 Homework** (https://sdsu.instructure.com/courses/194577/assignments/1815045)	due by 11:59pm
Mon Apr 21, 2025	**Chapter 7 Homework** (https://sdsu.instructure.com/courses/194577/assignments/1815046)	due by 11:59pm
Mon May 5, 2025	**Chapter 8 Homework** (https://sdsu.instructure.com/courses/194577/assignments/1815047)	due by 11:59pm
Mon May 12, 2025	**Chapter 10 Homework** (https://sdsu.instructure.com/courses/194577/assignments/1815039)	due by 11:59pm
Fri May 16, 2025	**Chapter 11 Homework**	due by 11:59pm

You are currently logged into Student View

Resetting the test student will clear all history for this student, allowing you to view the course as a brand new student.

Reset Student

Leave Student View

Date	Details	Due
Mon Feb 9, 2026	**Chapter 2 Homework (https://sdsu.instructure.com/courses/194577/assignments/1815041)**	due by 11:59pm
Wed Feb 18, 2026	**Chapter 3 Homework (https://sdsu.instructure.com/courses/194577/assignments/1815042)**	due by 11:59pm

You are currently logged into Student View

Resetting the test student will clear all history for this student, allowing you to view the course as a brand new student.

Reset Student

Leave Student View