

Syllabus
"Lectures in Organic Chemistry" (2nd Semester)
Online Chemistry 241b, Spring 2026

We respectfully acknowledge the University of Arizona is on the land and territories of Indigenous peoples. Today, Arizona is home to 22 federally recognized tribes, with Tucson being home to the O'odham and the Yaqui. Committed to diversity and inclusion, the University strives to build sustainable relationships with sovereign Native Nations and Indigenous communities through education offerings, partnerships, and community service.

Course Description

This course teaches the fundamentals of organic chemistry, with a focus on organic structures, properties, transformations (organic synthesis), and the mechanisms of those transformations (organic reaction mechanisms).

Course Prerequisites: CHEM 241a

Instructor and Contact Information

Instructor: Dr. Lisa Dollinger (she/her)
Office: Koffler 335
Phone: (520) 621-2089
email: ldolling@arizona.edu
Class meetings: This is a completely asynchronous online class

Help Hours:

Instructor:
T, Th 11 AM-12PM
The Commons 350 (in-person), and
<https://arizona.zoom.us/j/84890509815> (zoom)
...or by appointment

Organic Teaching Team Help Hours/Problem Solving Sessions:

- List of individual preceptor office hours (both in person and zoom) can be found under Teaching Team Contact and Office Hours module on course D2L page.

Course Objectives

This second semester course covers the chemistry from the source textbook from chapters 13-26.

Expected Learning Outcomes

Overarching Learning Outcomes for the entire 241 sequence:

Having completed Chemistry 241A and Chemistry 241B, students will be able to discuss, both orally and in writing:

- The structure and bonding of organic compounds and the relationship of structure and bonding to physical and chemical properties.
- Reactions that transform one organic compound into another.
- The detailed mechanisms whereby organic reactions occur.

Technology Requirements

To participate in this course, you will need

- a desktop or laptop **computer** with the Chrome browser installed
- a broadband wired or wireless (3G, 4G/LTE, or 5G) **internet** connection
- a web camera
- access to Desire2Learn (**D2L**)

If you have technology issues that may impede your participation in this course, please contact me no later than the first week of class. Assistance with technology resources on campus can be found at <https://student.it.arizona.edu/resources>.

Textbook/Homework/Assessment Package (required!)

- ALEKS 360 Online Access for Smith, Organic Chemistry, 7e
- Smith 7e Solutions Manual/Study Guide eBook link via VitalSource (link available upon start date in D2L)

The textbook and homework/assessment package (i.e., ALEKS) will come packaged as a bundle via Inclusive Access (IA) through D2L. Access to digital course materials is **required** and will be available on the first day of class or within 24 hours of registering if adding the class.

If you do not wish to purchase the course materials through the IA program (note: IA is the *least* expensive way to access the digital material), you have until the add/drop day to **opt-out**. To avoid being billed you **must** opt-out online before the deadline: go to d2l.arizona.edu, login with your NetID, select > My D2L Tools and proceed to "Inclusive Access Opt Out." *If you drop the course by the add-drop date you will have your access turned off, be automatically opted-out, and will not be billed.*

Not Required—For those of you wishing to have a hard copy of the book, upon purchase of your ALEKS subscription (after the add drop date has passed), you are able to purchase a discounted loose-leaf version of the textbook (in full color) from within your ALEKS course. Cost is \$47.

Review the FAQs at [Bookstore Website](#) for more information. Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions or concerns to the UA BookStores Inclusive Access Team at uabks-inclusiveaccess@email.arizona.edu

Molecular Models Recommended

As organic molecules are three-dimensional objects, many students find working with a set of organic molecular models helpful and instructive. There are many organic molecular model kits available at student bookstores and on the web. Most model sets are adequate, but I like the one by [Darling Models, Inc.](#) It is possible to split one of these model kits between 2 students and still have enough for the course. **You will be allowed to use the models on quizzes and exams.**

Course Format and Teaching Methods

This course will be taught using completely asynchronous online instruction. Each student is unique and is responsible for their own learning process and outcome. The material to be learned is contained in the source textbook, **“Organic Chemistry”, 7th edition, by Janice Gorzynski Smith.** Both traditional printed and electronic versions of the textbook and solutions manual are available (vide supra).

We will be using a class **GroupMe** for class discussion/questions:

https://groupme.com/join_group/112357086/gtkx1Ah8

The GroupMe is the best way for you to get help fast and efficiently from classmates, the teaching team, and myself. Rather than emailing questions, I encourage you to post your questions on the GroupMe.

Learning organic chemistry begins with **drawing structures and mechanisms**, so **active note-taking is essential.** Course content is delivered through **asynchronous video lectures** posted in each Unit on D2L and aligned with the textbook. As you watch the videos, you are strongly encouraged to take notes in whatever format works best for you. Basic lecture slides are provided for each video and may be printed or downloaded to a tablet for annotation. As you read the text and view lectures, **write down questions to bring to office hours or GroupMe.** Because lectures closely follow the textbook, many students find it helpful to read the text before and/or after watching the videos.

As in all math- and science-based courses, **problem solving is the only way to master organic chemistry.** Required homework assignments are completed in the ALEKS online homework system, which is linked through D2L. These assignments make up a significant portion of your course grade and allow **unlimited attempts**, so you should complete them by the posted deadlines to earn all the points. However, it is a good idea to work additional problems and additional practice problems (not for credit), as well as learning-objective videos, tables, and study guides are available in each Unit’s **Additional Materials** module.

For students on or near campus, **Teaching Team–led in-person problem-solving sessions (Organic Café)** will be held **Mondays and Wednesdays, 4:00–5:00 PM (room TBD).** Students may work on Unit Problem Sets, textbook problems, or ask questions from any unit—**you are never too far behind to attend and get help.**

Regardless of course modality, the goal is the same: student learning. Success in organic chemistry requires consistent effort and follow-through. You are strongly encouraged to view all lectures, enable D2L notifications, and **engage with this course every day**. Due dates are designed to help you stay on track; falling behind happens quickly, so commit early to keeping up with lectures and completing assignments on time. Students who put in the most effort are generally the most successful.

Academic advising: If you have questions about your academic progress this term, or your chosen degree program, please note that advisors at the Advising Resource Center can guide you toward university resources to help you succeed.

Life challenges: If you are experiencing unexpected barriers to your success in your courses, please note the Dean of Students Office is a central support resource for all students and may be helpful. The Dean of Students Office can be reached at 520-621-2057 or DOS-deanofstudents@email.arizona.edu.

Physical and mental-health challenges: If you are facing physical or mental health challenges this semester, please note that Campus Health provides quality medical and mental health care. For medical appointments, call (520-621-9202. For After Hours care, call (520) 570-7898. For the Counseling & Psych Services (CAPS) 24/7 hotline, call (520) 621-3334.

The UA's policy concerning Class Attendance and Participation is available at: <https://catalog.arizona.edu/policy/class-attendance-and-participation>. The UA policy regarding absences for any sincerely held religious belief, observance or practice will be accommodated where reasonable. Please see: <http://policy.arizona.edu/human-resources/religious-accommodation-policy>.

Absences pre-approved by the UA Dean of Students (or Dean Designee) will be honored. Please see: <https://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/policies/attendance-policies-and-practices>. *To request a disability-related accommodation to this attendance policy, please contact the Disability Resource Center at (520) 621-3268 or drc-info@email.arizona.edu*. If you are experiencing unexpected barriers to your success in your courses, the Dean of Students Office is a central support resource for all students and may be helpful. The Dean of Students Office is located in the Robert L. Nugent Building, room 100, or call 520-621-7057.

Assessment Components (Video Lectures, Homework, Quizzes, and Examinations–Schedule/Due Dates)

Lecture Videos (25 points): Since this class is in an online format, students are provided with lecture video content (see class schedule at the end of the syllabus for exact due dates for video viewing). Each video is worth 0.55 points, and must be viewed BEFORE MIDNIGHT Arizona time the due date. To receive points, you must complete the quiz embedded within the video. Watching and completing these videos will make up 5% of your grade. There are 51 videos, and each is worth 0.54 points, five video grade will be dropped. Hence, about 25 points of your final grade will come from completing 46 of the lecture videos before the due dates. **All videos are available to view for credit on the first day of class, and there are NO exceptions for credit for watching videos past their due dates.**

Once the due date/time has passed you still will be able to view the video in the D2L module “Lecture Videos for reference (not graded!!!),” but will not receive credit for doing so. If you get a message that says to **Click to Sign In and Play Video**, click that button and it should prompt you to log into UA with your net ID and password. To watch the video, **click the small arrow at the bottom right of the video.** This will allow you to watch it directly in Panopto.

Homework (75 points): Working problems is the only way to master organic chemistry. Online homework using the ALEKS software will be due about once a week (**see exact dates on class schedule**). Each homework assignment is worth 6.82 points, 75 points of your class grade. The due dates for the ALKES homework assignments on the ALEKS web page for this course, and in the calendar below. These required homework assignments will make up 15% of your course grade and **you have unlimited attempts to get them correct**, so you should make every effort to complete them by the due dates published here. **Late homework is accepted with a 50% late grade penalty.**

Assignment	Topic	Date
Homework 1 on...	Chapter 13	Saturday 1/24
Homework 2 on...	Chapter 14	Saturday 1/31
Homework 3 on...	Chapter 15	Saturday 2/7
Homework 4 on...	Chapter 16	Tuesday 2/17
Homework 5 on...	Chapter 17	Saturday 2/28
Homework 6 on...	Chapter 18	Wednesday 3/18
Homework 7 on...	Chapter 19	Tuesday 3/24
Homework 8 on...	Chapter 20	Saturday 4/4
Homework 9 on...	Chapter 21	Saturday 4/11
Homework 10 on...	Chapter 22	Saturday 4/25
Homework 11 on...	Chapter 26	Wednesday 5/6

Additional suggested problems (not for credit but recommended to master the material) can be found in the Unit Modules under the Unit Materials tab, including a list of suggested problems from the Smith textbook (solutions to the problems can found in the solutions manual) as well as a Unit Problem Set/Answer Key. Also included under the Unit Materials tab is a reactions list for each chapter, detailed learning objectives for each video, and other useful charts and study guides.

Quizzes (100 points) The quiz content will focus primarily on the current learned *before* the quiz date (see quiz dates below for exact content). Nevertheless, the material builds, layer upon layer, and so is cumulative by its very nature.

There are seven quizzes, and each is worth 20 points. Your lowest **two** quiz scores will be dropped. Hence, 100 points of your final grade will come from your highest five (5) quiz scores. If you miss a quiz, you will receive a zero for that quiz, since the lowest two quizzes are dropped, they will count as your dropped scores. If you do need to miss a quiz, an early quiz will be allowed if you **contact me at least 2 days BEFORE the date of the quiz and have a Dean's excuse.**

Quiz 1 (Chapter 13), Tuesday 1/27
Quiz 2 (Chapter 14), Tuesday 2/3
Quiz 3 (Chapter 15), Tuesday 2/10
Quiz 4 (Chapter 17), Tuesday 3/3
Quiz 5 (Chapter 18), Thursday 3/19
Quiz 6 (Chapter 20), Tuesday 4/7
Quiz 7 (Chapter 21), Tuesday 4/14

Examinations (200 points): Each exam will be worth 100 points. Your lowest one (1) exam score will be dropped. Hence, 200 points of your final grade will come from your two highest exam scores.

Each exam will focus on the material covered since the previous exam. Nevertheless, the material builds, layer upon layer, and so is cumulative by its very nature. Knowledge and understanding of the principles, reactions, and mechanisms presented in earlier chapters is a prerequisite for success in later chapters and on subsequent examinations. To do well throughout this term, you must keep up, master the material, and remember it throughout your study of organic chemistry.

Assessment	Topic	Date
Exam 1 on...	Ch.13-16	Thursday, 2/19
Exam 2 on...	Ch. 17-19	Thursday, 3/26
Exam 3 on...	Ch. 20-22 + 26*	Thursday, 4/30

*Exam 3 will focus on material from Chapters 20-22 and 26 (up to and including videos 1-2)

All Quizzes/Exams are open from 12:00 am – 11:59 pm (AZ time) on the day indicated in the class schedule (see last page).

- Calculators, cell phones, and other electronic devices are **prohibited** during quizzes and examinations.
- Organic molecular model sets, scratch paper, and pencil will be allowed.
- If you miss a quiz or exam, you will receive a zero for that assessment. Makeup exams will be allowed with a Dean's excuse.

Final Exam (100 points): The Final Exam (Chapters 13-26) is worth 100 points and may not be dropped.

It will be open in Aleks from 12am-11:59PM on Monday, May 11

Grading Scale and Policies

University policy regarding grades and grading systems is available at <http://catalog.arizona.edu/policy/grades-and-grading-system>

Total points for the course will be determined as shown in the following table.

ASSIGNMENT	POINTS	Percentage	
Videos	25	5	5 Will Be Dropped
Homework	75	15	Cannot Be Dropped
Quizzes	100	20	Lowest 2 Will Be Dropped
Exams	200	40	Lowest 1 Will Be Dropped
Final Exam	100	20	Cannot Be Dropped
TOTAL POINTS	500		

Final grades will be assigned based on the breakdown shown in the following table.

GRADE	Total Points	Percentage
A	440-500	88.0
B	380-	76.0
C	300-	60.0
D	225-	45.00

Requests for incomplete (I) or withdrawal (W) must be made in accordance with University policies, which are available at <http://catalog.arizona.edu/policy/grades-and-grading-system#incomplete> and <http://catalog.arizona.edu/policy/grades-and-grading-system#Withdrawal> respectively.

Dispute of Grade Policy

Inquiries concerning the grading of a particular examination must be submitted before the date of the next examination.

Threatening Behavior Policy

The UA Threatening Behavior by Students Policy prohibits threats of physical harm to any member of the University community, including to oneself. See <http://policy.arizona.edu/education-and-student-affairs/threatening-behavior-students>.

Accessibility and Accommodations

At the University of Arizona, we strive to make learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience barriers based on disability or pregnancy, please contact the Disability Resource Center (520-621-3268, <https://drc.arizona.edu/>) to establish reasonable accommodations.

Code of Academic Integrity

Students are encouraged to share intellectual views and discuss freely the principles and applications of course materials. However, graded work/exercises must be the product of independent effort unless otherwise instructed. Students are expected to adhere to the UA Code of Academic Integrity as described in the UA General Catalog. See: <http://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/academic-integrity/students/academic-integrity>. The University Libraries have some excellent tips for avoiding plagiarism, available at <http://new.library.arizona.edu/research/citing/plagiarism>.

Selling class notes and/or other course materials to other students or to a third party for resale is not permitted without the instructor's express written consent. Violations to this and other course rules are subject to the Code of Academic Integrity and may result in course sanctions. Additionally, students who use D2L or UA e-mail to sell or buy these copyrighted materials are subject to Code of Conduct Violations for misuse of student email addresses. This conduct may also constitute copyright infringement.

UA Nondiscrimination and Anti-harassment Policy

The University is committed to creating and maintaining an environment free of discrimination; see <http://policy.arizona.edu/human-resources/nondiscrimination-andanti-harassment-policy>. Our classroom is a place where everyone is encouraged to express well-formed opinions and their reasons for those opinions. We also want to create a tolerant and open environment where such opinions can be expressed without resorting to bullying or discrimination of others.

Additional Resources for Students (recommended links)

UA Academic policies and procedures are available at <http://catalog.arizona.edu/policies>

Student Assistance and Advocacy information is available at <http://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/student-assistance/students/student-assistance>

Confidentiality of Student Records

For details, please see: <http://www.registrar.arizona.edu/personal-information/familyeducational-rights-and-privacy-act-1974-ferpa?topic=ferpa>

Subject to Change Statement: Information contained in the course syllabus, other than the grading and absence policy, may be subject to change with advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.

	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.
Wk 1	JAN 12	JAN 13	JAN 14	JAN 15 Syllabus Video	JAN 16	JAN 17	JAN 18
Wk 2 Ch 13	JAN 19 MLK Day	JAN 20 13 (p1-2)	JAN 21	JAN 22 13 (p3-4)	JAN 23 Respondus	JAN 24 HW 1(13)	JAN 25
Wk 3 Ch 14	JAN 26	JAN 27 14 (p1-2) — Q1	JAN 28	JAN 29 14 (p3)	JAN 30	JAN 31 HW 2(14)	Feb 1
Wk 4 Ch 15	Feb 2	Feb 3 15(p1-3) — Q2	Feb 4	FEB 5 15(p 4)	FEB 6	FEB 7 HW 3(15)	FEB 8
Wk 5 Ch 16	FEB 9	FEB 10 16(p1-2) — Q3	FEB 11	FEB 12 16(p3-4)	FEB 13	FEB 14	FEB 15
Wk 6 Ch16/17	FEB 16	FEB 17 HW 4(16)	FEB 18	FEB 19 EX 1 (13-16)	FEB 20	FEB 21	FEB 22
Wk 7 Ch 17	FEB 23	FEB 24 17(p1-4)	FEB 25	FEB 26 17(p5)	FEB 27	FEB 28 HW 5(17)	MAR 1
Wk 8 Ch 18	MAR 2	MAR 3 18(p1-3a) — Q4	MAR 4	MAR 5 18(3b)	MAR 6	MAR 7	MAR 8
Wk 9	MAR 9	MAR 10	MAR 11	MAR 12	MAR 13	MAR 14	MAR 15
S P R I N G B R E A K							
Wk10 Ch18/19	MAR 16	MAR 17 18(4-5)	MAR 18 HW 6(18)	MAR 19 19(1-4) — Q5	MAR 20	MAR 21	MAR 22
Wk11 Ch 20	Mar 23	Mar 24 20(1-2) HW 7(19)	Mar 25	Mar 26 EX 2(17-19)	Mar 27	Mar 28	Mar 29
Wk12 Ch 20-21	Mar 30	Mar 31 20(3-5)	Apr 1	Apr 2 21(1)	Apr 3	Apr 4 HW 8(20)	Apr 5
Wk13 Ch 21-22	Apr 6	Apr 7 21(2-4) — Q6	Apr 8	Apr 9 21(5)	Apr 10	Apr 11 HW 9(21)	Apr 12
Wk14 Ch 22	Apr 13	Apr 14 Ch22(1-3) — Q7	Apr 15	Apr 16 Ch22(4)	Apr 17	Apr 18	Apr 19
Wk15 Ch 22/26	Apr 20	Apr 21 Ch22(5-6)	Apr 22	Apr 23	Apr 24	Apr 25 HW 10(22)	Apr 26
Wk16 Ch 26	Apr 27	Apr 28 26(1-2)	Apr 29	Apr 30 EX 3 (20-22, 26)	May 1	May 2	May 3
Wk17	May 4	May 5 26(3-5)	May 6 HW 11(26)	May 7 Reading Day	May 8	May 9	May 10
Wk18	May 11 Final	May 12	May 13	May 14	May 15	May 16	May 17

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