

**Spring 2020, Chem 332C: Organic Chemistry 2 (“Majors” section)  
M-W-F 9:55–10:45 am; SICTR 0114**

**Instructor:** Brett VanVeller (3126 Hach Hall) email: [bvv@iastate.edu](mailto:bvv@iastate.edu) (please put 332 in subject line)

**Office hours:** 3126 Hach Hall, after class 10:00-10:30 AM or by appointment.

**Email policy:** Organic chemistry is a visual/pictographic science. Snapping a pic of your problem/answer and sending it along can make all the difference in resolving your questions. Also please make use of Help Center, Office Hours and Supplemental Instruction.

**Textbook:** *Organic Chemistry: Principles and Mechanisms 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition* by Joel Karty (e-book editions are available). The text is a *support* tool that I will assume you have, but “the course” is what we cover in class. Consider buying a molecular models kit if you have difficulty visualizing in 3-dimensions. FREE RESOURCE: <http://www.masterorganicchemistry.com>

**Course Content:** We will cover material in *Karty* in the following order. Notice Ch22/23 out of order.

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|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| 1. Chapter 14 | 4. Chapter 15 | 7. Chapter 18 | 10. Chapter 21 |
| 2. Chapter 22 | 5. Chapter 16 | 8. Chapter 19 | 11. Chapter 24 |
| 3. Chapter 23 | 6. Chapter 17 | 9. Chapter 20 |                |

**A large amount of material will be covered in this course.** Because the concepts in this course build on themselves, it is extremely important that you keep up. If you fall behind, it is almost impossible to catch up.

**Class Structure:** In my opinion, solving problems is the most effective way to learn and test your understanding of organic chemistry. For this reason, the class is structured in the following manner:

1. Watch a 15 min video before coming to class. Look out for any post-video exercises
2. In-class: Working in groups of 3-4, complete a problem-sheet to test your understanding.
3. **In-Class Participation:** One student will be selected at random to present and explain their group’s solution to one of the problems. Please write out your answer on a piece of paper ahead of time so you can use the video projector. Your grade is not determined by whether your answer is correct but, clarity, neatness, evidence of thought and effort put into your answer, giving a damn, will all be considered in assigning your participation grade.

**Exams:** There will be four mid-term exams and a comprehensive final exam. All midterm exams will be given in class (schedule below). Any re-grades on an exam must be requested (after class or in office hours) within one week after they are returned. *The final exam TBD.*

I will accommodate exam absences, but you must speak with me—preferably 1 week before the exam. Cheating on an exam will earn a zero for that exam, *which cannot be dropped.*

**Grades:** The course grade will be based on the three best 100 pt midterm scores, the 200 pt cumulative final exam, 100 pts from online homework, and 50 points based on your in-class participation (max total = 650 pts). The lowest score on one of the four 100-point exams will be automatically dropped. To inform your progress during the semester, you can assume the median on any exam is the B-/C+ cutoff (+/- a few percentage points). Your final grade may be curved based on the performance of the class, but you are guaranteed the following grades: >85% A-, > 75% B-, >

65% C-. Plus-minus grading will be used. Thus, in principle everyone in the class can earn an A. Canvas will be used to post grades.

**Disabilities:** If you have a documented disability requiring accommodations in this course, make arrangements with me **as soon as possible**. Please request that a Disability Resources staff member prepare a SAAR form verifying your disability and specifying the necessary accommodations. Disability Resources is located on the main floor of the Student Services Building in room 1076. Their phone number is 4-7220.

**Homework:** We will use an on-line homework system called Smartwork. You need to buy an access code and create a student account. A registration guideline is posted in Canvas. Regularly check the Smartwork website for homework due dates. If there is any change in the due date, it will be announced via Canvas announcement or in class. Although the online homework is the only graded homework, prior student performance suggests that working end-of-chapter problems from your text greatly improves understanding. You are strongly encouraged to work as many end-of-chapter problems as possible! You are also encouraged to complete in-chapter problems prior to class, you will find that having done these problems before class is an effective use of your time because then you will get more out of the class lecture. Your percentage of points earned for the online homeworks over the semester will be scaled to match 100 points (e.g. earning 90% of the homework points for the semester will give you 90/100 homework points in determining your final grade). You will have unlimited time and chances to get the problems right. Thus, as long as you eventually get the answer correct you should be able to earn all of these points (these are easy points so make sure you earn them all!).

The three most important tips for doing well in this class:

1. Watch the pre-lecture videos and come to class ready to work on problems.
2. Work all of the online homework following lecture (form a study group!).
3. **Don't fall behind, as it is nearly impossible to catch up!**

#### **Important dates:**

##### **Midterm Exams**

Mon Feb 15, 2021  
Fri Mar 12, 2021  
Mon Apr 5, 2021  
Mon Apr 26, 2021

##### **Final Exam**

**TBD.**

#### **Study habits and tips**

The second semester of organic chem (332) is much **more difficult** than the first semester (331).

- 1) Practice each mechanism covered. Be creative with your starting materials.
- 2) Create reaction webs.
- 3) Then tackle some practice problems.

Do not consider *reading* over notes/slides as an effective study method. If you aren't actively drawing structures and solving problems, you aren't studying.

Iowa State University supports and upholds the First Amendment protection of freedom of speech and the principle of academic freedom in order to foster a learning environment where open inquiry and the vigorous debate of a diversity of ideas are encouraged. Students will not be penalized for the content or viewpoints of their speech as long as student expression in a class context is germane to the subject matter of the class and conveyed in an appropriate manner.