Lecture Syllabus

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday: 9:10 – 10:10
Copley Science Building, Room 101

Instructor  Dr. John D. Thoburn
323 Copley Science Building
jthoburn@rmc.edu
752-3790

Office Hours  By appointment - just send me an email!

Organic Chemistry Study Guide, Marc Loudon
ACS Organic Chemistry Study Guide
Composition Notebook for homework
Laboratory Manual (provided)
Laboratory notebook (provided)
Molecular model set (provided)
Safety goggles (provided)

Objectives  This course is intended to give students of chemistry, biochemistry, and biology a foundation in organic chemistry. We will start with a study of organic reaction mechanisms and then turn to specific reaction types: substitution, elimination, and additions at carbon. After a brief detour into electrophilic aromatic substitution, we will turn to the important topic of substitutions and additions to carbonyls. Before we leave this topic we will make use of \( \alpha \)-substitution as a way to make carbon-carbon bonds. After a study of skeletal rearrangements we will put all the pieces together in multi-step syntheses. The course will finish with a tour of some biologically important compounds.

Grades  Grades will be based on your performance on four 100-point exams (on 2/27, 3/20, 4/17, and 5/8 ) and a final exam worth 140 points (on 5/18). The final exam is cumulative, covering the whole year of organic chemistry. There is no set value for the lab grade. Instead you lab score will be used as a “correction” (enhancement or diminution) of your class grade.

The student ...

A Exceptional  ... has mastered current material
... can synthesize/analyze new material
... retains material from earlier in course

B Very Good  ... gets nearly all of routine work correct
... retains some but not all of the earlier material

C Satisfactory  ... still learning current material
... has lost much of earlier material

D Deficient  ... not learning sufficient amount of material
... little retention of earlier material

Suggestions
Keep doing what you are doing.
You are doing very well – room for improvement
You are doing OK – room for significant improvement
Studying too little, or inefficiently. See me.
Homework

In class I will provide you an introduction to the material, but all the real learning takes place outside of class when you apply yourself to your homework. Homework will not be collected or graded since you have the study guide, but your success in the course is based on what you do outside of class. You are expected to work approximately 12 hours per week outside of class.

Final Exam

Absence from the final examination can only be excused by the Provost or the Associate Dean of the college. Absence from a final examination without such an excuse will result in failure in the course.

Academic Integrity

Members of an academic community have an unequivocal responsibility to present as the result of their own work only that which is truly theirs. Cheating, whether in examinations or by plagiarizing the work of others, is a serious offense, and one which strikes at the foundation of academic life. Any infraction of this code will result in either your immediate removal from this course with a final grade of “F” for the semester or referral to the college’s Academic Integrity Council. There will be no exceptions to this policy.

ADA

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and other Federal laws require Randolph-Macon College to provide a “reasonable accommodation” to any individual who advises us of a physical, psychological, or learning disability. If you have a physical, psychological, or learning disability that requires an accommodation, you must first register with the Office for Disability Support Services, located in the Higgins Academic Center. Please arrange a meeting with the course instructor to discuss your needs and how to register for support services.

PED Policy

All phones and personal electronic devices should be silenced and put away for the duration of each class session, with the following exceptions: (1) in order to take electronic class notes, or (2) if a student has a legitimate requirement for an electronic device in class -- for example, because of accommodation for a disability, on-call duty as an EMT, etc. -- the student should clear the use of the device with the instructor BEFORE the class session starts. Under NO circumstances should you be web surfing, texting, checking e-mail, etc. during class. Accessing your cell phone or other electronic device for any purpose during a quiz, exam, or other in-class graded assignment, without prior instructor approval, will be considered a violation of the Code of Academic Integrity and will be handled according to the Code’s procedures.
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**Final Exam – Monday, May 18th, 2:00 – 5:00 PM**