Portland State University
Chemistry 334
Organic Chemistry I, Summer 2012

Mark Woods  Lecture:  MTWRF 9:15-11:35 am (REC 001)
Office: SB2-328, (mark.woods@pdx.edu)  Office Hours:  by email appointment
Workshop: REC 001, MTR 12:00-12:50


Class Schedule: We will cover Chapters 1-9. The lecture/discussion topics correspond approximately to the ordering of material in each of the chapters.

Homework assignments: Homework assignments are from the problems within and at the end of each text chapter. The Study Guide gives complete solutions and special assistance. Homework is not collected or graded.

Quizzes: There will be no quizzes.

Exams: We will have 2 in-class exams, worth 150 points each, and a cumulative final exam worth 200 points, given in class according to the schedule in this syllabus. There will be no make-up exams. Exams will start at 9:15am and go to 10:25am. On the day of the exams, lecture/discussion will commence after a short break, and go from 10:35am to 11:35 am. If you come late you can take the exam but you will be stopped at 10:25 am. Come early on exam days so that we can have exams handed out by 9:15am so you may have a full 70 minutes. Once the exam has started you cannot leave. If you need to leave, then hand-in the exam and your time has expired. (Go to the rest room before the class).

Grading: The final course grades are curved. I give extra credit to students that show improvement during the course. There is no other form of extra credit available.

Course strategy for the student: A strong emphasis this term will be arrow-pushing mechanisms and understanding chemical processes. Memorization is discouraged. Come to every class. Confront the material by 1) reading the assigned chapters in advance of the corresponding lecture, 2) working at least the problems assigned as Homework, 3) attending the daily Workshops to get help and answers to your questions, 4) revisiting test items that you find were not fully understood, and 5) consulting with your instructor for assistance.
Text: Carey; “Organic Chemistry”; 8th Ed. We will cover Chapters 1-9 approximately in order. Specific exam topics will be announced in advance in class. Note: All exams test understanding of the material covered in lecture and assigned problems. Additional topics appearing in the text are not going to be part of the exams.

Fri June 29    EXAM I (lecture after exam)
Fri July 6     EXAM II (lecture after exam)
Fri July 13    Comprehensive Final Exam

Study Schedule:
Week 1: Chapters 1-3
Week 2: Chapters 4-6
Week 3: Chapters 7-9

Homework assignments: Your primary homework assignment is to read the text in advance of the lecture. The problems that it is suggested that you tackle for homework, will be given at the end of class. These problems will be neither graded nor collected, but I will be available to discuss them in the workshops.

Workshop: Attendance is voluntary. I may ask you to go to the board and work problems and explain to your peers how you worked the problem (not just show the answer). This method allows you to see how others, beside the instructor, approach a problem. It also ensures you get it right on exam day.

Miscellaneous: University policy will be strictly followed with respect to course withdrawal, academic honesty, and related subjects. Please consult the latest PSU Bulletin if you have any questions.

Re-grades (note: exams will be photocopied before they are returned): If you have questions about how your exam is graded do the following:

1. Don’t panic if there is a grading or addition error. It will be fixed if you follow step 2.
2. Staple a professionally worded, very brief and to-the-point note to the front of your exam stating (a) the specific problem number and (b) your question about the problem. If, on the other hand, there is simply an error in addition, be specific about the number of points miscalculated.
3. If you ask for a re-grade of a question that has been graded correctly, then you will forfeit from your original grade the number of points available for that question. Be sure that there is an error in grading before asking for a re-grade. This policy does not apply to addition errors.

Students with Disabilities: If you have a disability and require an accommodation to fully participate in this class, contact the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSWD). If you have an OSWD Accommodation Plan, you should make an appointment to meet with me to discuss your accommodations. Also, you should meet with me if you wish to discuss emergency medical information or special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated.