

## CHM 2211, Organic Chemistry II, Spring 2020

**Section 11415: MWF – 3<sup>rd</sup> period – Flint 50**

**Section 11416: MWF – 4<sup>th</sup> period – Flint 50**

**Section 11417: MWF – 9<sup>th</sup> period – CLB C130**

**Instructor:** Dr. Jason Portmess (Dr. J)  
**Email:** [portmess@ufl.edu](mailto:portmess@ufl.edu) (ONLY!)

**Office:** Sisler 328  
**Office Hours:** See Dr. Schedule on Canvas

**Course Description:** This is the second of two basic courses that describe the chemistry of carbon compounds. Specific topics to be covered include the main functional group inter-conversions of carbonyl based functional groups (aldehyde, ketone, carboxylic acids and their derivatives), amines, new carbon-carbon bond forming reactions, and the electronics and structure reactivity of aromatic compounds. In addition to the reactivity relationships that will be studied a cursory investigation of the spectroscopic (IR, NMR and UV/Vis) behavior of these organic functional groups will also be introduced. A solid, pre-requisite understanding of the functional group recognition and transformation reactions of alkanes, alkyl halides, alkenes, alkynes, alcohols and epoxy-ethers are expected. The importance of understanding and writing detailed mechanisms will be emphasized throughout the course.

**Text:** Brown, Foote, Iverson, Anslyn, *Organic Chemistry*, 8<sup>th</sup> Edition (highly recommended) and accompanying, *Solutions Manual, Organic Chemistry*, 8<sup>th</sup> Edition (recommended – **with caution...it can be addictive**).

**Exams:** Progress/Assembly Exams 1-3 will be given from 8:20-9:50 PM on the following dates (see below) in room locations which will be announced prior to each exam. The final exam room locations are TBA and the date and time is shown below.

**Exam 1 – January 29<sup>th</sup>**  
**Exam 2 – February 19<sup>th</sup>**

**Exam 3 – April 1<sup>st</sup> (not a joke)**  
**Final Exam – April 25<sup>th</sup> (8:00-9:45PM)**

**Considerations for scheduling conflicts (religious holidays, higher ranking assembly exams, and university sponsored events) will be made but must be presented to the instructor 5 days prior to the scheduled exam.**

It is possible for you to earn up to 100 points for each exam (400 pts). All examinations will be cumulative, as it is the nature of the course, but the emphasis (60-70%) on each exam will be centered on unevaluated/“new” material. This is also the same philosophy and approach you should take in preparing the final exam as well.

**Improvement Bonus Points** will be awarded for any exam that is equal to or exceeds a previous “personal best” (not just previous score). The value of the bonus will be determined by the instructor and can be earned each time a “personal best” score is equaled or exceeded.

**Exam Absences:** These will be handled in accordance with official UF academic regulations. For more information, see <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/>. Please read below for further clarification for the most common situations:

(1) *Conflicts with other events:* Acceptable reasons to miss a scheduled exam include conflicting evening exams in courses with higher course numbers, religious holidays, military obligations, special curricular requirements (*e.g.*, attending professional conferences), or participation in official UF sanctioned activities such as athletic competitions, *etc.* For more information on such absences see the official UF Policy at <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/#absencetext> ). If you must be absent for an exam due to a documented and approved conflict known in advance, you must e-mail your instructor the relevant documentation at least **one week prior** to the scheduled exam and an early conflict exam will be scheduled for you.

(2) *Missing an exam due to an emergency or sudden illness:* If you are absent for an exam due to an unpredicted documented medical reason or family emergency, you must contact the instructor within **24 hours of the missed exam, and have your excuse verified by the Dean of Students Office (DSO)**. Your instructor will follow UF academic regulations in evaluating the notification and/or documentation received by you and by the DSO on your behalf. Once confirmed by your instructor, a make-up exam will then be scheduled. If your documentation is deemed insufficient to excuse your absence you will receive a zero for the missed exam.

**Grading:** The final grade will be determined by the four exams given during the semester. *There are no dropped exams but the lowest of the first three progress exams will be replaced by the average of Exams 1-3.* This “average/replace” will help to minimize the impact of a single poor performance but it does not completely disappear as it still must represent your overall performance in the course. *The Final Exam is an isolated evaluation and will not be used in the “average/replace” calculation.*

I find in life it is best to exceed expectations rather than relying on the performance of others to dictate outcome. Therefore, in order to earn the grade that you expect, you must perform at a certain level. All exams carry equal weight giving you a final percentage based on 400 points. Letter grades will be assigned based on the grading scale below. Plus/flat/minus grades will be assigned and determined by the instructor based on student/class performance. Go get it!

A/A-	89.50-100+%	C-/D	50.00-59.99%
B+/B/B-	77.50-89.49%	E	less than 50.00%
C+/C	60.00-77.49%		

**Attendance:** No one is here to hold your hand, but success in this course can be highly dependent upon your attendance of lecture (see course statistics on our Canvas site). The ability to ask questions and experience first-hand what is being taught is very important to the learning process and practically essential for understanding some of the detailed concepts presented in this course. It is the responsibility of the student to obtain any notes, in-class assignments that are due, etc. that may have been missed during lecture. Always remember, it is your choice whether you decide to attend class or not but if you choose to attend please make sure not to engage in activities that will disrupt the instructor or more importantly the students around you (see below - **THE RULE OF THE CLASSROOM**).

**Doing Problems:** *"I must have studied 50 hours and not a single thing on the test is what I studied. I go to Study Edge, I understand what you are saying in lecture, and I do ALL of the problems. So how come I got a 52 on the exam?"* These statements and this question are as frustrating for me to hear and answer as it is for you to say and ask. My best advice to you is to work as many problems as YOU can. Honestly work them - write them out on paper, balance equations, draw arrows, etc. Don't turn to the solutions manual at the first point of struggle. The struggle is real and it is absolutely necessary to make the mental connections required to be successful. Relying on the solutions manual or watching someone on YouTube can be a monumental mistake that students make all the time. Maybe this will sound familiar...*"Let me just see how they did it.... Hmmm....Yep, that's what I thought the answer was supposed to be. Next question...."* Before you know it, you have tricked yourself into believing that you understand the problems, but then the test comes along and you don't know where to begin. Suddenly a panic attack ensues unlike what you have experienced in a classroom setting. This is not a scare tactic but reality.

This is not a course where your performance is determined by your ability to regurgitate facts or figures. In order to be successful in this class, you must be able to diagnose a problem, determine the best course of action and apply what you have learned to new situations. The best way to acquire this skill is to work *a lot* of problems. The more problems YOU attempt, the more YOU will learn. It's that simple. Watching me, teaching assistants, YouTube videos or paid off-campus services solve problems will not acquire a skill for YOU any more than watching LeBron James work out will make you a better basketball player. If you are not the one getting frustrated, then you are not the one who will do well. If YOU are not the one exhausted from doing more problems in a single subject than you have ever done in your life....then YOU will be the one wondering *"what happened?"* after an exam.

*"So how many problems should I attempt from each chapter?"* There are two basic philosophies in practicing anything to acquire great skill (physical or mental). Some people practice until they get it right and some practice until they CAN'T get it wrong. Which group do you think are the most successful and in which group do you want to be? Answer these questions and you will know how many problems to do. But to assist you in this endeavor I will provide a list of End of Chapter problems that you can omit and others which can be altered to become even more beneficial as the semester proceeds.

## THE RULE OF THE CLASSROOM:

The use of electronic devices for any non-course related material is prohibited during lectures/exams without consent of the instructor (note taking tablets are permitted during lectures only). You are welcome to audio record but video recording and/or taking pictures is strictly prohibited. I find it very distracting and I am asking for your cooperation not only for me but for your fellow classmates. Failure to comply is a direct violation of the Student Honor Code (see below) and may result in your dismissal from the lecture room. The use of any course materials during examinations are strictly prohibited and any violation will be reported to the Dean of Students office where my recommendation will be for your expulsion from the course.

### *4.041 Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code: Scope and Violations.*

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*(j) Conduct Disruptive to the University Community. Conduct that is disruptive to the University's educational objectives, to its operations, or to its officials, staff, and faculty in the performance of their work, or to any other aspect of its mission.*

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*2. Disruption of a class or curricular activity. Classroom or other academic workplace behavior that interferes with either (a) the instructor's authority or ability to conduct the class or (b) the ability of other students to benefit from the instructional program.*

## FINAL NOTES:

If you did not know how to swim and you were thrown into the deep end of the pool you would scream for help. You wouldn't worry how people would think of you and the fact that you couldn't swim. If you feel like the waves of organic chemistry are beginning to crash around you, come and get help before it is too late. *Getting help is not a sign of weakness...it is a sign of strength.* Think of it as a self-imposed discussion section and you get to choose when to go. The following represent my recommendations in order of preference:

*Free Help:*

**#1. Dr. J's Office Hours (see schedule on Canvas):** These are displayed on Canvas and will be presented in class. *I'm the source...Why go anywhere else? Spend 1 hour with me (make it like a discussion section) and I will save you 3 hours if you do it on your own. Now that's smart!*

**#1A. Dr. J's SI-UGTAs:** I will have more than a dozen undergraduate teaching assistants assigned to this class. These are all high-performing, past students of mine who know the "ins-and-outs" of the course and the way I like to do things. *They have done it...They know!* Before you hand over your money to anyone ask them if they can make this claim? These UGTAs will be running volunteer discussion sessions in coordination with the Broward Teaching Center. They can help you clarify topics from lecture, they can assist you in generating more effective study strategies as well as preparing topic relevant worksheets and practice exams. They will also conduct open exam reviews in the days leading up to each exam. This current collaboration statistically represents the most comprehensive help network for any single course/instructor at the University of Florida. Oh, did I mention that it is FREE?!

**3. Broward Teaching Center, "UF's Learning Resource Center"** - The Teaching Center offers various forms of academic support to help students succeed in their studies. All tutoring services are *free* to UF students. See our Canvas site for more details.

**4. Organic Chemistry Learning Center (OCLC – JHH 205):** Graduate teaching assistants will be basically available Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM. An exact schedule will be posted on our Canvas site when it becomes available.

**All of these options are free to any student registered for my course. If you have paid money in the past to get through courses like this – then save your money this semester. Try betting on yourself and if you get stuck we are here to help.**

## Standard Syllabus Statements

Listed below are standard syllabus statements that meet CLAS and UF requirements for undergraduate and graduate courses. All of these topics must be included in the syllabus. These cover the minimum requirements. More details can be added at the instructor's discretion.

### Grades and Grade Points

For information on current UF policies for assigning grade points, see <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

### Software Use:

All faculty, staff and students of the university are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against university policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate.

### Absences and Make-Up Work

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments and other work are consistent with university policies and can be found at: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

### Academic Honesty

As a student at the University of Florida, you have committed yourself to uphold the Honor Code, which includes the following pledge: *"We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity."* You are expected to exhibit behavior consistent with this commitment to the UF academic community, and on all work submitted for credit at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: *"On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."*

It is assumed that you will complete all work independently in each course unless the instructor provides explicit permission for you to collaborate on course tasks (e.g. assignments, papers, quizzes, exams). Furthermore, as part of your obligation to uphold the Honor Code, you should report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. It is your individual responsibility to know and comply with all university policies and procedures regarding academic integrity and the Student Honor Code. Violations of the Honor Code at the University of Florida will not be tolerated. Violations will be reported to the Dean of Students Office for consideration of disciplinary action. For more information regarding the Student Honor Code, please see: <https://www.dso.ufl.edu/scer/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>

### Services for Students with Disabilities

The Disability Resource Center coordinates the needed accommodations of students with disabilities. This includes registering disabilities, recommending academic accommodations within the classroom, accessing special adaptive computer equipment, providing interpretation services and mediating faculty-student disability related issues. Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester. Please contact the DRC at 352-392-8565 or go to their website at: [www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/)

## **Campus Helping Resources**

Students experiencing crises or personal problems that interfere with their general well-being are encouraged to utilize the university's counseling resources. The Counseling & Wellness Center provides confidential counseling services at no cost for currently enrolled students. Resources are available on campus for students having personal problems or lacking clear career or academic goals, which interfere with their academic performance.

- *University Counseling & Wellness Center, 3190 Radio Road, 352-392-1575, [www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/](http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/)*

Counseling Services Groups and Workshops Outreach and Consultation Self-Help Library  
Training Programs  
Community Provider Database

- *Career Resource Center, First Floor JWRU, 392-1601 or at: [www.crc.ufl.edu/](http://www.crc.ufl.edu/)*

## **Online Student Course Evaluations**

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>.