

**Syllabus**  
**CHM 234, General Organic Chemistry II : Spring 2012 : Ian R. Gould**  
**Onground Class SLN 10316**

Office: PS D-109  
Phone: 965-7278  
Lectures: Mon., Wed., Fri., 7:30 - 8:20 AM  
Location: LS-A191  
Website: [chm234.asu.edu](http://chm234.asu.edu)

Office Hours  
Mon. 1:00 - 2:00 PM  
Wed. 8:30 - 9:30 AM  
Thurs. 6:00 - 7:00 PM  
Fri. 8:30 - 9:30 AM  
Sat. 4:00 - 5:00 PM

**I do not use Blackboard Check the class website ([chm234.asu.edu](http://chm234.asu.edu)) regularly for announcements, I will assume that you have read all announcements posted on the website**

**Textbook.** The recommended textbook is Organic Chemistry, 3rd Edition by J. G. Smith. A custom edition for ASU is available from the bookstore at a price that is probably lower than you can find for a new copy from any other source. The accompanying Solution Manual is essential, since the most important part of any textbook is the practice problems. Although you can learn organic chemistry from just about any textbook (they are all very similar), I will suggest problems from the 3rd Edition of Smith ONLY. If you have another textbook, it should be fairly easy for you to find the relevant reading and problems yourself.

**Examinations and Grading.** Three midterms will be given from **7:30 - 8:20 AM** on **Monday Feb. 6th, Monday Mar. 5th, and Monday Apr. 2nd**. The final exam is on **Monday Apr. 30th 7:30 - 9:20 AM**. **All exams will be held in LS-A191**. I will not change an exam date for ANY reason since changes will merely result in new conflicts. Although the emphasis of the midterms will be on the most recent material, all exams are necessarily cumulative. The final exam will be on material from the entire course. No late or early exams will be given, you *must* be present for ALL exams, *none* are dropped!

**Weekly Quizzes/Homework.** There will be 14 multiple-choice online quizzes, roughly one each week. The deadline for submission of most of the quizzes will be by 11:59PM each Sunday, EXCEPT FOR THE WEEKEND PRIOR TO EACH MIDTERM, when the quiz deadline will be 11:59PM on the appropriate Saturday. The purpose of this is not to spoil your Saturday evening, but so that the answer key can be posted on the Sunday before each Monday midterm as a study aid. No excuses will be accepted for missing quizzes, *you will not be able to make them up, please do not ask*. However, the lowest FOUR quiz scores *will* be dropped. If you are ill, have a job interview etc. just forgot to submit in time or missed the deadline or had computer/internet problems, that is what the dropped quizzes are for, that way I don't have to decide whether your excuse is legitimate or not. Note that there will NOT be any multiple-choice questions on any of the exams. There will also be a total of 40 homework participation points, the details of exactly how these will be earned have yet to be decided, look for announcements in class and on the website.

**Final Grades. I do not award grades in this class, you earn your grade.** It is my job to **help you earn** the highest grade that you are capable of. Grades are EARNED on the basis of 1000 total points:

|                      |              |   |           |
|----------------------|--------------|---|-----------|
| Quizzes              | 10 x 6 pts.  | = | 60 pts.   |
| Homework             | 40 pts.      | = | 40 pts.   |
| Midterm Examinations | 3 x 175 pts. | = | 525 pts.  |
| Final Examination    | 1 x 375 pts. | = | 375 pts.  |
| Total                |              | = | 1000 pts. |

You will need to obtain the following points totals to earn the grades as shown.

Grade A : 875 points  
Grade B : 775 points  
Grade C : 580 points  
Grade D : 460 points

**I reserve the right to change these points totals** (although I rarely do). Grades are earned based on the points totals *only*. For example, if your score on the first midterm is low but is high on the final, there is no way for you to earn a higher grade than you deserved based on your points *total*. In this way, no student will earn a higher grade than another even though his or her points total is lower. Note that you are NOT competing against anybody else in this class, in principle EVERYBODY **could** get an A, although this is unlikely to happen!

Once the final course grades have been posted there will be *no mechanism* for you to get a higher grade, no extra credit, nothing. Don't ask! If you missed a grade by a few points it will not have gone unnoticed by me. Your final exam will have been entirely regraded by me and I will not have been able to find enough points to raise your grade. You earn your grade by **EXCEEDING** the required number of points, **NOT by getting close!**

**Procedures.** Four problem sets designed to prepare you for the exams will be provided on the web site before each exam. The problem sets will not be graded but it is suggested that you take them seriously. Each Monday as appropriate, problems from the textbook and the web site will also be assigned. These problems will also not be graded, but doing problems is the *only* way that you will learn the material properly. *The key to doing well in this course is doing problems, problems and more problems!*

"Gapped" lecture notes will be provided on the web site as pdf files. The notes package can also be purchased from the Alternative Copy Shop, see the web site for details under "Lecture Material". I suggest that you purchase the notes package, it will be much cheaper than printing for most people. Use the Gapped notes in class, completed versions of the notes will be posted on the web site at the end of each section.

We will follow the order of topics in the Smith textbook only approximately. I don't assign weekly reading. A detailed list relating the lecture notes to the appropriate sections in the textbook is given in the "Lecture Material" page of the web site. Click on the "Expanded Version" link. If you use a different textbook, you should be able to work out the appropriate section of the textbook that refers to the notes.

**Studying.** The course moves fast, please read the study suggestions on the web site under "Study Aids". If you do not understand something, come and see me during office hours as soon as possible. I want to help you! To get help, you must come and see me BEFORE an exam, I can't help you after the exam is over.

If you take on a heavy course load, or are working many hours outside of class, experience tells me that you WILL be disappointed in your performance in this class. If you are not able to assign enough time to work on this course you will not do well. Just about EVERYBODY who does poorly on the first midterm does poorly in the class overall. Start working straight away, you have been warned!

If you need to get a certain grade in this class to maintain a scholarship, or to graduate, you need to tell me about this at the *beginning* of the semester! I will do *whatever I can to help you*. However, do not come to me at the end of the semester, or after you have failed 2 midterms to ask for help. By then it is too late! I cannot give grades to "deserving" cases or out of sympathy, you have to earn your grade.

In case of a fire alarm during a test, I will assume that it was set deliberately. A new test will be given the following week and the material for the missed lecture will become *your responsibility to learn*.

**Material Covered.** Exam material will be taken from your lecture notes, the appropriate sections of the textbook as detailed on the web site, the textbook problems, the website problems and the problem sets.

**Voluntary Review Sessions.** Voluntary review sessions will be held at fairly regular intervals, particularly before the exams, look for announcements in class and on the web site for times and locations.

**Incomplete Policy.** An incomplete will *only* be given under exceptional or catastrophic circumstances, usually for medical reasons that force you to miss multiple classes or tests. I will not give you an incomplete because you do not want a W on your record. Please note the University withdrawal deadlines:

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| Course Withdrawal Deadline (via ASU Interactive) | Mar. 28th |
| Complete Withdrawal Deadline                     | Apr. 24th |

**Cheating.** Plagiarism, using unauthorized aids on an exam or altering an exam for regrading is obviously considered cheating. Exams will be photocopied for record-keeping purposes so it is not very smart to consider alteration. Any student caught cheating will be withdrawn with a failing grade and reported to the Dean. Use common sense.