

## Chemistry 211 – Organic Chemistry I

### Fall 2021 Discussion Syllabus

#### **Instructor Information:**

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**Course Description:** This course uses both a mechanistic and functional-group approach to introduce organic concepts. Topics include bonding, functional groups, stereochemistry, acid and bases, and conformations. Mechanisms covered include electrophilic addition, SN2, SN1, E1, E2 and radical reactions. This course deals with compounds from the aliphatic series.

**Course Material:** The following materials are required for this course unless noted otherwise. Additional resources can be found on the private shared drive and my personal webpage.

- Smith, Janice G.. *Organic Chemistry*, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition. United States, McGraw-Hill, 2011.
- Wade, L. G.. *Organic Chemistry*, 8<sup>th</sup> Edition. United States, Pearson, 2013.

**Personal Responsibility:** I do expect a certain level of responsibility, maturity, and integrity from you. I have very high expectations, and I am sure you can meet them. You've made it this far, which means you have what it takes to get through this class. No excuses, and no giving up. Discuss any issues you may have with me as soon as they arise, and we will come up with a plan to tackle them. Understand, that while I want to see everyone do well and have no ill will towards anyone, it is **NOT** my responsibility to keep your GPA up, or to help you keep that scholarship, or whatever reason it is important that you do well here. These are your responsibilities. My responsibility is to facilitate you learning the material in this syllabus. I shall keep that responsibility. Please keep yours. Help me help you, and don't be shy or afraid to seek help when you need it. You can do well here; it will just take some directed effort and persistence.

**Attendance Policy:** Students are expected to be on time and attend all classes. The first three absences are "free" (but not recommended—they should be reserved for righteous influenzas, deceased relatives, and other legitimate personal emergencies), the fourth absence and each additional absence automatically knocks the final semester grade in the course down by an entire letter grade. On the seventh absence, the student will automatically fail the course. Tardiness is also a problem! You get one human factor tardy, meaning there is no penalty. Each additional tardy after the first, however, lowers your final course grade by five points. (e.g. If you had a 93 and you have two tardies, your final grade would be an 88.) Also, leaving before I dismiss the class will be counted as an absence. (Just don't miss class and this won't be a problem!)

**Grading Policy:** Because this is a discussion course, grading works a little differently. Letter grade assignments from this conform to the Christian Brothers University standard scale, however do not constitute a better grade in the actual course. The numerical grade you earn in this course will be averaged against your grade in the lecture with a weight of 30/70. In other words, the grade you get in this discussion course will determine 30% of your lecture course grade.

**100.0% – 90.0% = A / 89.9% – 80.0% = B / 79.9% – 70.0% = C / 69.9% – 60.0% = D / below 60.0% = F**

Grading in this course will be based on the total points earned over the total possible points. Grades will be based off of the effort you put into this course. With that being said, I do not and will not round your final grade. If you have an 89.9999% you will have a 89.0 (B) average for the course.

**Course Deadlines:** *LATE WORK WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED!* Only in a case involving unusual and documented circumstances can the student be given an extension on a deadline. I will employ the strictest possible definitions of “unusual” and “documented,” so be forewarned that it is exceedingly difficult (*read: almost impossible*) to warrant an extension. Being sick, although documentable, is not unusual and not merit an extension. Being abducted by aliens, although unusual, is not documentable and also will not merit an extension. In other words, consider deadlines in this course as “hard” deadlines.

**Classroom Communication:** Should there be a need that I have to contact the entire class, I will contact you via your college CBU email and post it to my website, so be sure to check your college email address and my website regularly. Please read the emails.

**Office Hours:** Don’t be scared of coming to office hours! I genuinely enjoy talking to my students outside of class. If you’re struggling or confused by some aspect of the class, don’t wait until you’re failing—come see me! However, don’t feel like you need to have a major crisis. You’re perfectly welcome to stop by for a casual chat or general guidance/questions. If you’re not taking advantage of your professors’ office hours, you’re not fully taking advantage of the college experience. Individual access to experts in a variety of fields is a big part of what you’re paying for.

**Academic Honesty:** Dishonesty of any kind will not be tolerated in this course. Dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarizing, fabricating information or citations, facilitating acts of academic dishonesty by others, having unauthorized possession of examinations, submitting work of another person or work previously used without informing the instructor, or tampering with the academic work of other students. All policies for academic honesty will be strictly enforced in all that you do for this course.

Grades are given as an evaluation of your work. Any attempt to pass somebody else's work as your own or being found in violation of academic honesty will earn you a grade of a F for the course as well as a possible academic dismissal from the institution.