

Topics in Organic Chemistry – 2580
CHEM 3703 Section 1
Spring Quarter, 2018



Welcome to Topics in Organic Chemistry! This course will focus on methods and strategies for complex molecule synthesis. We will use primary literature sources as we embark on a historical perspective into the technology and inspiration that chemists utilize in preparing architecturally dense compounds. These entities may have important biological, material, or agrochemical use or simply be challenging structures that test the state-of-the art in organic synthesis. This course is designed for graduate and advanced undergraduate students.

Instructor: Professor Bryan J. Cowen

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Office: Seeley G. Mudd, Room 132

Lecture: MWF 10:00 a.m. – 10:50 a.m., FW Olin Hall, Room 103

Office Hours: By appointment. Please e-mail me at least one day in advance.

Textbook: None. Primary literature will be posted on Canvas.

Exams: There will be two 50-minute exams during the quarter worth 100 points each. The final exam will also be worth 100 points. If your final exam score is higher than either 50-minute exam score, the lowest score will be dropped and the final will count for 200 points. ***The final exam is not optional.***

Exam I – Wednesday, April 18; Exam II – Wednesday, May 16; Final – Monday, June 4

Homework: There will be graded problem sets throughout the quarter. These problems are intended to help you understand the lecture material and reading assignments more thoroughly. Homework will be worth 50 *total points* for the course. The lowest homework score will be dropped. Late submissions receive reduced credit (10 points per day late).

Final Grade: Your final letter grade will be determined out of 350 points and will be curved appropriately based on overall class performance.

Lectures: I will cover most material on the whiteboard using three different colors. I would recommend bringing at least 3 colored pens/pencils to class. If PowerPoint slides are periodically incorporated in lecture they will be posted afterwards on Canvas.

Academic Integrity: I have high expectations for each and every one of you as students at the University of Denver. While I encourage group study sessions outside of class, I expect you to work independently during in class examinations. Any deviations from this policy will not be tolerated. For more information, please see the University of Denver's official Honor Code at: <http://www.du.edu/studentlife/studentconduct/>

Compounds of Interest – Subject to Change – Not Chronological

Longifolene
Periplanone B
Penicillin
Taxol
Strychnine
Mitomycin C
Monensin
Ginkgolide B
Erythromycin
Ecteinascidin 743
Palau'amine