



Course CHEM 4340
Advanced Polymer Science and Engineering
Professor Mihaela C. Stefan
Term Spring 2024
Meetings Tu, Th 10 am-11:15 am CB 1.222

Professor's Contact Information

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Office Hours T/R 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm
Other Information Contact by e-mail to set up an appointment if you cannot make it to office hours

General Course Information

Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, & other restrictions Organic chemistry, physical chemistry, and some basic polymer chemistry knowledge is desirable

Course Description

Polymer science is concerned primarily with synthetic polymers, such as plastics. The field of polymer science includes research in multiple disciplines including chemistry, physics, and engineering. This course describes the synthesis, characterization, and properties of organic polymers. The course emphasizes the structure/property relationships for polymers and strategies to tune the properties of polymer. The course notes used during lectures can be downloaded as pdf files from E-Learning. Supplementary material will also be posted on E-Learning. Some topics are not covered in the textbook: lecture notes and specialty reviews on those topics will be provided on E-Learning.

Upon completing this class, undergraduate students will be able to:

- Understand the synthesis of polymers
- Understand the expected variations in molecular weight of polymers
- Understand the dilute solution thermodynamics of polymers
- Understand the glass transition and mechanical properties of polymers

Learning Outcomes

- Understand the properties of thermoplastics, thermosets, and elastomers
- Understand the properties of amorphous and crystalline polymers
- Learn how polymers can be developed for drug delivery and tissue engineering applications
- Understand and provide constructive feedback for scientific presentations by the graduate students in the class

Required Texts & Materials

“Introduction to Physical Polymer Science”, 4th Edition, L. H. Sperling, Wiley-Interscience, 2006

Suggested Texts, Readings, & Materials

“Principles of Polymerization”, 4th Edition, George Odian, Wiley, 2004

“The Mechanical Properties of Solid Polymers”, I.M. Ward, J. Sweeney, 2nd Edition, John Wiley&Sons, Ltd., 2004

“Biomaterials Science: An Introduction to Materials in Medicine”, Buddy D. Ratner, Alan S. Hoffman, Frederick J. Schoen, Jack E. Lemons

Assignments & Academic Calendar

[Topics, Reading Assignments, Due Dates, Exam Dates]

Date	Topic	Chapter	Test
Jan 16	Introduction to polymer science. Condensation and addition polymerization	Notes	N
Jan 18	Molecular weight, homopolymers, copolymers, and topology	Notes	N
Jan 23	Chain Structure and Configuration	2	N
Jan 25	Dilute Solution Thermodynamics	3.1-3.4	N
Jan 30	Determination of Molecular Weight	3.4-3.12	N
Feb 01	Phase Separation and Diffusion	4	N
Feb 06	Latexes and Suspensions	4	N
Feb 08	Amorphous Polymers	5	N
Feb 13	Amorphous Polymers	5	N
Feb 15	Crystalline Polymers	6	N
Feb 20	Crystalline Polymers	6	N
Feb 22	Liquid Crystalline Polymers	7	N
Feb 27	Glass-rubber transition behavior	8	N
Feb 20	Polymer Viscoelasticity	8	N
Mar 05	Test 1		Y
Mar 07	Effect of molecular weight on glass transition temperature	8	N
Mar 19	Rheology	Notes	N
Mar 21	Mechanical properties of polymers	11	
Mar 26	Mechanical properties of polymers	11	N
Mar 28	Fracture and Healing in Polymers	11.3-11.4	N
Apr 02	Polymer Blends and Composite Materials	11.5	N
Apr 04	Polymers for Drug Delivery	Notes	N
Apr 09	Degradation of Polymers in the Biological Environment	Notes	N
Apr 11	Polymers for Tissue Engineering	Notes	N
Apr 16	Test 2		Y
Apr 18	Attend graduate student presentations/feedback		N
Apr 23	Attend graduate student presentations/feedback		N

	<p>1.602, 972/883-6391) and online at http://www.utdallas.edu/judicialaffairs/UTDJudicialAffairs-HOPV.html</p> <p>A student at the university neither loses the rights nor escapes the responsibilities of citizenship. He or she is expected to obey federal, state, and local laws as well as the Regents' Rules, university regulations, and administrative rules. Students are subject to discipline for violating the standards of conduct whether such conduct takes place on or off campus, or whether civil or criminal penalties are also imposed for such conduct.</p>
<p>Academic Integrity</p>	<p>The faculty expects from its students a high level of responsibility and academic honesty. Because the value of an academic degree depends upon the absolute integrity of the work done by the student for that degree, it is imperative that a student demonstrate a high standard of individual honor in his or her scholastic work.</p> <p>Scholastic Dishonesty, any student who commits an act of scholastic dishonesty is subject to discipline. Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.</p> <p>Plagiarism, especially from the web, from portions of papers for other classes, and from any other source is unacceptable and will be dealt with under the university's policy on plagiarism (see general catalog for details). This course will use the resources of turnitin.com, which searches the web for possible plagiarism and is over 90% effective.</p>
<p>Copyright Notice</p>	<p>The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted materials, including music and software. Copying, displaying, reproducing, or distributing copyrighted works may infringe the copyright owner's rights and such infringement is subject to appropriate disciplinary action as well as criminal penalties provided by federal law. Usage of such material is only appropriate when that usage constitutes "fair use" under the Copyright Act. As a UT Dallas student, you are required to follow the institution's copyright policy (Policy Memorandum 84-I.3-46). For more information about the fair use exemption, see http://www.utsystem.edu/ogc/intellectualproperty/copypol2.htm</p>
<p>Email Use</p>	<p>The University of Texas at Dallas recognizes the value and efficiency of communication between faculty/staff and students through electronic mail. At the same time, email raises some issues concerning security and the identity of each individual in an email exchange. The university encourages all official student email correspondence be sent only to a student's U.T. Dallas email address and that faculty and staff consider email from students official only if it originates from a UTD student account. This allows the university to maintain a high degree of confidence in the identity of all individual corresponding and the security of the transmitted information. UTD furnishes each student with a free email account that is to be used in all communication with university personnel. The Department of Information Resources at U.T. Dallas provides a method for students to have their U.T. Dallas mail forwarded to other accounts.</p>
<p>Withdrawal from Class</p>	<p>The administration of this institution has set deadlines for withdrawal of any college-level courses. These dates and times are published in that semester's course catalog. Administration procedures must be followed. It is the student's responsibility to</p>

	<p>handle withdrawal requirements from any class. In other words, I cannot drop or withdraw any student. You must do the proper paperwork to ensure that you will not receive a final grade of "F" in a course if you choose not to attend the class once you are enrolled.</p>
<p>Student Grievance Procedures</p>	<p>Procedures for student grievances are found in Title V, Rules on Student Services and Activities, of the university's <i>Handbook of Operating Procedures</i>.</p> <p>In attempting to resolve any student grievance regarding grades, evaluations, or other fulfillments of academic responsibility, it is the obligation of the student first to make a serious effort to resolve the matter with the instructor, supervisor, administrator, or committee with whom the grievance originates (hereafter called "the respondent"). Individual faculty members retain primary responsibility for assigning grades and evaluations. If the matter cannot be resolved at that level, the grievance must be submitted in writing to the respondent with a copy of the respondent's School Dean. If the matter is not resolved by the written response provided by the respondent, the student may submit a written appeal to the School Dean. If the grievance is not resolved by the School Dean's decision, the student may make a written appeal to the Dean of Graduate or Undergraduate Education, and the dean will appoint and convene an Academic Appeals Panel. The decision of the Academic Appeals Panel is final. The results of the academic appeals process will be distributed to all involved parties.</p> <p>Copies of these rules and regulations are available to students in the Office of the Dean of Students, where staff members are available to assist students in interpreting the rules and regulations.</p>
<p>Incomplete Grades</p>	<p>As per university policy, incomplete grades will be granted only for work unavoidably missed at the semester's end and only if 70% of the course work has been completed. An incomplete grade must be resolved within eight (8) weeks from the first day of the subsequent long semester. If the required work to complete the course and to remove the incomplete grade is not submitted by the specified deadline, the incomplete grade is changed automatically to a grade of F.</p>
<p>Disability Services</p>	<p>The goal of Disability Services is to provide students with disabilities educational opportunities equal to those of their non-disabled peers. Disability Services is located in room 1.610 in the Student Union. Office hours are Monday and Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.; Tuesday and Wednesday, 8:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.; and Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.</p> <p>The contact information for the Office of Disability Services is: The University of Texas at Dallas, SU 22 PO Box 830688 Richardson, Texas 75083-0688 (972) 883-2098 (voice or TTY) disabilityservice@utdallas.edu</p> <p>If you anticipate issues related to the format or requirements of this course, please meet with the Coordinator of Disability Services. The Coordinator is available to discuss ways to ensure your full participation in the course. If you determine that formal, disability-related accommodations are necessary, it is very important that you be registered with Disability Services to notify them of your eligibility for reasonable accommodations. Disability Services can then plan how best to coordinate your accommodations.</p> <p>It is the student's responsibility to notify his or her professors of the need for such an accommodation. Disability Services provides students with letters to present to</p>

	<p>faculty members to verify that the student has a disability and needs accommodations. Individuals requiring special accommodation should contact the professor after class or during office hours.</p>
Religious Holy Days	<p>The University of Texas at Dallas will excuse a student from class or other required activities for the travel to and observance of a religious holy day for a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property tax under Section 11.20, Tax Code, Texas Code Annotated.</p> <p>The student is encouraged to notify the instructor or activity sponsor as soon as possible regarding the absence, preferably in advance of the assignment. The student, so excused, will be allowed to take the exam or complete the assignment within a reasonable time after the absence: a period equal to the length of the absence, up to a maximum of one week. A student who notifies the instructor and completes any missed exam or assignment may not be penalized for the absence. A student who fails to complete the exam or assignment within the prescribed period may receive a failing grade for that exam or assignment.</p> <p>If a student or an instructor disagrees about the nature of the absence [i.e., for the purpose of observing a religious holy day] or if there is similar disagreement about whether the student has been given a reasonable time to complete any missed assignments or examinations, either the student or the instructor may request a ruling from the chief executive officer of the institution, or his or her designee. The chief executive officer or designee must take into account the legislative intent of TEC 51.911(b), and the student and instructor will abide by the decision of the chief executive officer or designee.</p>

These descriptions and timelines are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.