Course **CHEM 2323.004 Organic Chemistry I**
Professor Dr. Daniel Tran
Term Fall 2025
Meetings Tuesdays and Thursdays 1:00 – 2.15 PM, SLC 2.303

Professor's Contact Information

Office Location BE 2.519
Email Address dnt019000@utdallas.edu
Office Hours Before / after class or by appointment

General Course Information

Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, & other restrictions	CHEM 1312 General Chemistry II
Course Description	This course is designed to provide a unified overview of fundamental organic chemistry for science majors. Students who successfully complete this course acquire an integrated understanding of molecular architecture, molecular transformations, reaction energetics and mechanisms, synthetic strategy, and structure determination. Students often view organic chemistry as a difficult course. I strongly recommend that everyone attempt to keep up with the class as it proceeds. This is not a course where it is easy to 'cram' for a test. Students invariably do better once they learn how to visualize organic molecules, and reactions, in three dimensions. If you know this is hard for you, I recommend using molecular models to try and view the molecules. Also try to realize that this is not a memorization course. While some memorization is unavoidable in learning anything new, the purpose of this course is to teach the underlying basic principles that drive an organic reaction. Once these principles are handled a student will be able to understand, and predict, why any reaction occurs. All class materials (lecture slides, test answers, quiz answers, practice problems) will be posted on eLearning.
Learning Outcomes	Upon completing this class, students will: • Be able to predict bonding and three-dimensional structure (including chirality), and to analyze properties of this 3-D structure of organic compounds. • Be able to compare reactivity amongst a series of organic compounds. • Be able to predict reactivity of specific functional groups and to construct simple and efficient routes for the preparation of desired organic compounds.
Required Texts & Materials	L.G. Wade, Jr., "Organic Chemistry", 9th edition, 2017
Recommended Materials	Molecular model kit https://chemistry.utdallas.edu/ochemrank/

Course Policies

Grading (credit) Criteria

Grades will be determined from a combination of 4 quizzes, 2 tests, and a final exam. The lowest test grade can be substituted with the final exam (by percentage). The lowest quiz grade is substituted with the average remaining quiz grades.

Tests	2 x 250	500 points
Quizzes	4 x 50	200 points
Final Exam	1 x 300	300 points
Total		1000 points

900 – 1000 A+	700 – 759 B+	550 – 599 C+	400 – 449 D+
800 – 899 A	650 – 699 B	500 – 549 C	350 – 399 D
760 – 799 A-	600 – 649 B-	450 – 499 C-	<350 F

Make-up Exams

There are no make-up exams or quizzes except for documented University excused absences.

Class Information

Quizzes and tests are given on the days listed in the syllabus. Attendance will be taken at all tests, be sure to bring your Comet Card. All re-grades for tests and quizzes must be turned in within one week of the initial posting of the quiz or test grade. Keys for quizzes and tests will be posted in eLearning. Practice quizzes and tests will be placed in eLearning approximately one week before the quiz or test. Video or audio recording of the lectures is not allowed.

Chemistry Clinic

Chemistry Clinic offers in-person office hours Monday through Friday and it is located in the Berkner building.
Students can walk in and attend office hours offered by chemistry clinic leaders, graduate TAs and faculty.

Room: BE 3.502
Hours: Monday - Friday (hours to be announced later)
For more information: https://chemistry.utdallas.edu/chemclinic/

Peer Led Team Learning (PLTL)

What is PLTL?

- Cohort-style academic support program for chemistry, math, and physics subjects. Sessions are designed to encourage problem-solving strategies in pairs and in groups. It is run through the Student Success Center.
- **Registration is required.**
- If you sign-up for a session, attendance is required every week.

More Details

- Visit the PLTL webpage and follow the Instructions for Registration in CourseBook (PDF)
- Questions? Email PLTL@utdallas.edu

Supplemental Instruction (SI)	Supplemental Instruction (SI) is offered for this course. SI sessions are collaborative group study sessions, scheduled two times per week. Sessions are facilitated by an SI Leader, who has taken the course and received a high final grade. Attendance is voluntary. For information about the days, times, and locations for SI sessions, refer to http://www.utdallas.edu/studentsuccess/help-with-courses/supplemental-instruction/. www.utdallas.edu/studentsuccess/leaders/si.html.
Tutoring	Tutoring is available for organic chemistry through the Student Success Center. The center has drop-in times during the week for one-on-one tutoring. See the schedule for organic chemistry at www.utdallas.edu/studentsuccess/leaders/tutoring.html.
University Policies	For more University policies please see: *UT Dallas Syllabus Policies and Procedures* webpage

Assignments & Academic Calendar

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

Date Tuesday	Thursday	Topics	Chapter
August 26	28	Introduction	1
September 2	4	Structure and Bonding	1
9	11	Acids and Bases; Functional Groups	2
16	**18**	Structure and Stereochemistry of Alkanes (**Quiz 1**)	3
23	25	Stereochemistry	5
30		Stereochemistry	5
Wednesday October 1 8:30 PM – 10:00 PM		**Test 1** Chapters 1, 2, 3, and 5	
	October 2	Chemical Reactions	4
7	9	Alkyl Halides: Nucleophilic Substitutions	4 / 6
14	**16**	Alkyl Halides: Nucleophilic Substitutions (**Quiz 2**)	6 / 7
21	23	Structure and Synthesis of Alkenes; Elimination	7
28		Structure and Synthesis of Alkenes; Elimination	7
Wednesday October 29 8:30 PM – 10:00 PM		**Test 2** Chapters 4, 6, and 7	
	30	Reactions of Alkenes	8
November 4	6	Reactions of Alkenes	8
11	**13**	Alkynes (**Quiz 3**)	9
18	20	Alkynes	9
25	27	Fall and Thanksgiving Break	
December 2	**4**	Structure and Synthesis of Alcohols (**Quiz 4**)	10
9		Structure and Synthesis of Alcohols	10
		Final Exam TBA	

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