

CHEM 3321 Organic I Lab Syllabus, Fall 2023

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Welcome to the organic chemistry labs at CU! Organic chemistry is the study of carbon-based compounds. It's a crucial area of study for many disciplines, including medicine, biochemistry, pharmaceutical development, and polymer science. The problem-solving, spatial-visualization and scientific writing skills you'll develop during this course will hopefully serve you well in many future subjects, whether you continue on in chemistry or not.

This course is the first of a two-course lab sequence designed to teach you how to perform organic chemistry in the real world. The first two-thirds of the course is designed to teach you techniques that you need for synthesis: TLC, extraction, recrystallization, melting points, and distillation, as well as IR and NMR spectroscopy, molecular modeling, and several useful software packages. The last third of the course starts putting these techniques into practice to synthesize new compounds and use them to learn about the mechanisms of reactions. This course is designed to be taken alongside the companion lecture courses, CHEM 3311 or CHEM 3451.

List of Sections and Experiment Schedule

Section	Day	Time	Location	TA	TA Email
101/801	Tue	10:10 am-1:00 pm	EKLC M1B20	Quinn Brink	Quinn.Brink@colorado.edu
102	Tue	10:10 am-1:00 pm	EKLC M1B25	Alex LaVeck	Alexander.LaVeck@colorado.edu
111	Tue	1:25 pm-4:15 pm	EKLC M1B20	Quinn Brink	Quinn.Brink@colorado.edu
112	Tue	1:25 pm-4:15 pm	EKLC M1B25	Shota Hasegawa	Shota.Hasegawa@colorado.edu
121	Wed	10:10 am-1:00 pm	EKLC M1B20	Kajal	Kajal@colorado.edu
122	Wed	10:10 am-1:00 pm	EKLC M1B25	Jamie Stankiewiz	Jamie.Stankiewiz@colorado.edu
123	Wed	10:10 am-1:00 pm	EKLC M1B35	James Greenwood	James.Greenwood@colorado.edu
131	Wed	1:25 pm-4:15 pm	EKLC M1B20	Max Abreu	Maxwell.Abreu@colorado.edu
132	Wed	1:25 pm-4:15 pm	EKLC M1B25	Alex LaVeck	Alexander.LaVeck@colorado.edu
133	Wed	1:25 pm-4:15 pm	EKLC M1B35	Shota Hasegawa	Shota.Hasegawa@colorado.edu
141	Wed	4:40 pm-7:30 pm	EKLC M1B20	Dyuti Chakraborty	Dyuti.Chakraborty@colorado.edu
142	Wed	4:40 pm-7:30 pm	EKLC M1B25	Abby Rawlings	Abby.Rawlings@colorado.edu
151	Thu	10:10 am-1:00 pm	EKLC M1B20	Max Abreu	Maxwell.Abreu@colorado.edu
152	Thu	10:10 am-1:00 pm	EKLC M1B25	Ashley Ley	Ashley.Ley@colorado.edu
161	Thu	1:25 pm-4:15 pm	EKLC M1B20	Dyuti Chakraborty	Dyuti.Chakraborty@colorado.edu
162	Thu	1:25 pm-4:15 pm	EKLC M1B25	Alexandra Martinez	Alexandra.Martinez-1@colorado.edu
181	Fri	10:10 am-1:00 pm	EKLC M1B20	Kajal	Kajal@colorado.edu
182	Fri	10:10 am-1:00 pm	EKLC M1B25	Jamie Stankiewiz	Jamie.Stankiewiz@colorado.edu
191	Fri	1:25 pm-4:15 pm	EKLC M1B20	Alexandra Martinez	Alexandra.Martinez-1@colorado.edu
192	Fri	1:25 pm-4:15 pm	EKLC M1B25	Abby Rawlings	Abby.Rawlings@colorado.edu
193	Fri	1:25 pm-4:15 pm	EKLC M1B35	Ashley Ley	Ashley.Ley@colorado.edu

Dates	#	Experiment
Tue Aug 29 - Fri Sep 1		No labs
Tue Sep 5 - Fri Sep 8	1	Syllabus, Check-In, Lab Safety & IR Spectroscopy
Tue Sep 12 - Fri Sep 15	2	NMR Spectroscopy
Tue Sep 19 - Fri Sep 22	3	Modeling Conformations, ChemDraw & Excel
Tue Sep 26 - Fri Sep 29	4	Practical NMR
Tue Oct 3 - Fri Oct 6	5	Thin Layer Chromatography and Melting Point
Tue Oct 10 - Fri Oct 13	6	Extraction
Tue Oct 17 - Fri Oct 20	7	Recrystallization
Tue Oct 24 - Fri Oct 27	8	Distillation
Tue Oct 31 - Fri Nov 3	9	Modeling Chirality & Cycloalkanes
Tue Nov 7 - Fri Nov 10	10	Stereochemistry of Alkene Additions
Tue Nov 14 - Fri Nov 17	11	Regiochemistry of Eliminations
Tue Nov 21 - Fri Nov 24		No labs
Tue Nov 28 - Fri Dec 1	12	Oxidation of Alcohols
Tue Dec 5 - Fri Dec 8		Final Quiz & Check-Out
Tue Dec 12 - Fri Dec 15		No labs

Grading

Canvas: This course will use Canvas, which can be accessed at canvas.colorado.edu. All assignments must be submitted through Canvas; assignments submitted via email or paper copy will not be accepted unless you have prior permission. Grades will be posted in Canvas, as well as a complete list of assignments and the points value for each. You can check the grades of individual items against your own records to make sure they're correct, but your course total might not reflect any excused absences or curves.

Your due dates for assignments will be set based on your lab section, and most assignments are due at either the start or the end of your scheduled lab period. If you switch sections at any point, Canvas might not update your due dates properly. In this case, you are responsible for contacting OIThelp@colorado.edu, letting them know which section you have recently swapped into, and asking them to update your due dates in Canvas. Any late penalties you incur due to incorrect due dates will not be removed except in extenuating circumstances.

Quizzes: Quizzes cover assigned reading, procedures, and Experiment Manual study questions. They are due on Canvas at the starting time for your lab, but you can complete them at any point before then. The study questions from the Experiment Manual are designed to help you prepare for the quizzes, and they have answers posted on the course website. You don't need to turn in the answers to study questions in your lab reports but they are helpful for studying.

Regrades: If you notice a missing or erroneous grade on a quiz or lab, you must bring it to your TA's attention within two lab periods of the work being graded. After this point, no regrades will be accepted.

Late work: If you turn in any item late, you will lose 10% of the maximum possible points per day or partial day. For instance, a 20-point assignment will have 2 points deducted for each day that it is late. In order to submit final grades on time, no late work will be accepted after the final quiz is due for the course.

Curving: At the end of the semester, if the average grade for your lab section (excluding the students who have at least one zero grade) is below 85%, the average will be curved up to 85%. There is no guaranteed number of A grades, B grades, etc. per section. Your final letter grade will be based on the following standard scale: 93% and up is an A, 90-92.99% is an A-, 87-89.99% is a B+, etc. Grades near a cutoff will not be bumped up except in extenuating circumstances, at the discretion of the Lab Director.

Absences: You may take an excused absence for up to 1 experiment during the semester. In this case, the entire experiment will be dropped from your grade, and your grade will be out of fewer points. Note that you must request this option from your TA. Your lowest lab grade will not automatically be dropped, and you cannot drop an experiment if you've already submitted the lab report.

In addition, you may choose to perform up to 1 additional experiment remotely. This will involve watching a 10–15-minute video of a TA performing the lab, then writing up a lab report based on the TA's data. If your class needs to be held remotely for any part of the semester, this will not count against your limit of 1 remote experiment. However, you must attend in-person for the final quiz and lab checkout.

If you miss more than 2 experiments, you must either drop the class or take an incomplete – contact the Lab Director for details.

Help Room: Feel free to visit the OChem help room whenever it's staffed. A schedule will be posted at <http://www.orgchemboulder.com/About>, with the times that TAs are available to help you.

Cleanup Points: In the organic chemistry teaching labs you are expected to take care of the equipment and lab space that you use. Each lab period that involves a wet lab (using chemicals, not just model kits or paperwork) has 5 cleanup points associated with it, and lab checkout has 10 cleanup points associated with it. Those points are awarded to the whole class as a group. If the lab is left in disarray after your lab section, you and everyone else in your section will lose points for each violation of the cleanup requirements. These requirements are linked from the front page of this course's Canvas page. Each section's cleanup points will be posted here on a regular basis. Although it is not required, you can greatly increase your chance of getting full points by assigning cleanup to two or three students per class meeting. A sheet will be passed around during the first week to help you organize this.

Course Policies

Lab Safety Rules: You are required to follow the lab safety rules at all times or risk being expelled from the lab for the day and taking an unexcused absence. These rules are given in Chapter 1 of the Lab Handbook; and will be explained by your TA.

Lab Drawers: You are accountable for the contents of your lab drawer throughout the semester. Further information is given on the lab drawer check-in sheet you will use during the first lab session.

Pregnancy and Chemical Exposure Notice: Pregnant students should be aware that there are risks associated with the development of the embryo and fetus from exposure to certain chemicals. Likewise, students with certain medical conditions could also experience an adverse effect from exposure to chemicals. The Department of Chemistry recommends that you discuss the Organic Chemistry chemical list, procedures, and required safety precautions with your physician. The Department of Chemistry will work with you to discuss possible options regarding meeting the requirements of the course. Please contact the instructor of your course to discuss these options and any questions you may have.

Required Texts and Supplies:

- Approved safety goggles and lab coat
- Organic chemistry model set

To make them more affordable, the lab manual and handbook will be available as PDFs in Canvas, so you won't need to purchase them. Also, since all lab reports will be turned in as PDFs in Canvas, you do not need to record your experimental observations in a carbon-copy lab notebook; any notebook will work.

Organic modeling kits from various different manufacturers are available for lower cost online, but whichever kit you purchase, you should make sure it has at least 10–15 carbon atoms (they are usually the ones made of black plastic).

Prerequisites and Corequisites: Students enrolled in CHEM 3321 must also be enrolled in CHEM 3311 or 3451, unless they have already passed one of these courses. They must also have passed both lab and lecture for either General Chemistry 2, or General Chemistry for Engineers, or Foundations of Chemistry, with a grade of C– or better in both courses. Failure to meet this requirement will result in being administratively dropped from the course. Exceptions will be determined by the Lab Director.

Add/Drop: Students who do not attend the first laboratory session may be automatically dropped from the lab or the lecture to make room for people on the wait list. It is your responsibility to know your schedule and to make changes accordingly. Information regarding drop/add deadlines can be found on the [registrar's website](#).

Email Policy: Announcements from your TA or Lab Director will occasionally be sent to your official CU email address, via the roster emailing system, or through Canvas announcements. It is your responsibility to check your CU email account and Canvas frequently. You may set up email forwarding from your CU account to another email address if you prefer, but you do so at your own risk. If you suspect your email account is not working properly, you must contact CU's tech support at help@colorado.edu and make sure it is in order. Missed email will not be considered a valid excuse for missing or incorrect assignments. See the [Student Email Policy](#) for more details.

Classroom Behavior: Both students and faculty are responsible for maintaining an appropriate learning environment in all instructional settings, whether in person, remote or online. Failure to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with race, color, national origin, sex, pregnancy, age, disability, creed, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, veteran status, political affiliation or political philosophy. For more information, see the [classroom behavior](#) policy, the [Student Code of Conduct](#), and the [Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance](#).

Requirements for Infectious Diseases: Members of the CU Boulder community and visitors to campus must follow university, department, and building health and safety requirements and all public health orders to reduce the risk of spreading infectious diseases.

The CU Boulder campus is currently mask optional. However, if masks are again required in classrooms, students who fail to adhere to masking requirements will be asked to leave class. Students who do not leave class when asked or who refuse to comply with these requirements will be referred to Student Conduct & Conflict Resolution. Students who require accommodation because a disability prevents them from fulfilling safety measures related to infectious disease will be asked to follow the steps in the "Accommodation for Disabilities" statement on this syllabus.

For those who feel ill and think you might have COVID-19 or if you have tested positive for COVID-19, please stay home and follow the further guidance of the Public Health Office. For those who have been in close contact with someone who has COVID-19 but do not have any symptoms and have not tested positive for COVID-19, you do not need to stay home.

Accommodation for Disabilities, Temporary Medical Conditions, and Medical Isolation: Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities in the academic environment. If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, submit your accommodation letter from Disability Services to your faculty member in a timely manner so your needs can be addressed. Contact Disability Services at 303-492-8671 or dsinfo@colorado.edu for further assistance.

If you have a temporary medical condition or required medical isolation for which you require accommodation, please contact the lab director as soon as possible so your needs can be addressed. Also see [Temporary Medical Conditions](#) on the Disability Services website.

Preferred Student Names and Pronouns: CU Boulder recognizes that students' legal information doesn't always align with how they identify. Students may update their preferred names and pronouns via the student portal; those preferred names and pronouns are listed on instructors' class rosters. In the absence of such updates, the name that appears on the class roster is the student's legal name.

Honor Code: All students enrolled in a University of Colorado Boulder course are responsible for knowing and adhering to the [Honor Code](#). Violations of the Honor Code may include but are not limited to: plagiarism (including use of paper writing services or technology such as essay bots), cheating, fabrication, lying, bribery, threat, unauthorized access to academic materials, clicker fraud, submitting the same or similar work in more than one course without permission from all course instructors involved, and aiding academic dishonesty. All incidents of academic misconduct will be reported to Student Conduct & Conflict Resolution (honor@colorado.edu; 303-492-5550). Students found responsible for violating the Honor Code will be assigned resolution outcomes from the Student Conduct & Conflict Resolution as well as be subject to academic sanctions from the faculty member. Visit [Honor Code](#) for more information on the academic integrity policy.

Sexual Misconduct, Discrimination, Harassment and/or Related Retaliation: CU Boulder is committed to fostering an inclusive and welcoming learning, working, and living environment. University policy prohibits [protected-class](#) discrimination and harassment, sexual misconduct (harassment, exploitation, and assault), intimate partner violence (dating or domestic violence), stalking, and related retaliation by or against members of our community on- and off-campus. These behaviors harm individuals and our community. The Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance (OIEC) addresses these concerns, and individuals who believe they have been subjected to misconduct can contact OIEC at 303-492-2127 or email cureport@colorado.edu. Information about university policies, [reporting options](#), and support resources can be found on the [OIEC website](#).

Please know that faculty and graduate instructors have a responsibility to inform OIEC when they are made aware of any issues related to these policies regardless of when or where something occurred. This is to ensure that individuals impacted receive an outreach from OIEC about their options for addressing a concern and the support resources available. To learn more about reporting and support resources for a variety of issues, visit [Don't Ignore It](#).

Religious Holidays: Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to deal reasonably and fairly with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. In this class, absences for religious reasons will be

handled the same way as any other excused absence. See the [campus policy regarding religious observances](#) for full details.

Mental Health and Wellness: The University of Colorado Boulder is committed to the well-being of all students. If you are struggling with personal stressors, mental health or substance use concerns that are impacting academic or daily life, please contact [Counseling and Psychiatric Services \(CAPS\)](#) located in C4C or call (303) 492-2277, 24/7. Free and unlimited telehealth is also available through [Academic Live Care](#). The Academic Live Care site also provides information about additional wellness services on campus that are available to students.