University of Wisconsin-Madison
CHEM 343: Introductory Organic Chemistry

Contact Information
Matt (Doc) Bowman
262-2519
Chemistry 5232
bowman@chem.wisc.edu
(Please include Chem 343 in the subject line).
3 credits-Traditional Carnegie Definition

How Credit Hours are Met: This class is 3 credits. It meets for 50 min of lecture three times per week and 50 min of discussion once per week over the 14-week fall term. Over the course of the term, students are expected to engage in at least 135 hours of learning activities, which includes class attendance, reading, studying, preparation, problem sets, and other activities.

Course Description: Chemistry 343 covers fundamental aspects of organic molecular structure, including stereochemistry, and introduces basic themes in organic reactivity. It is the first semester of a two-semester organic chemistry sequence. Chemistry 345 is the second course in the sequence. Class is for students expecting to take two semesters of organic chemistry.

Prerequisite: Chem 104, 109, or 116
Course Designations: Intermediate level; physical science breadth; counts as L&S credit
Instructional Mode: face-to-face

Piled Higher and Deeper by Jorge Cham
www.phdcomics.com

IT'S IN THE SYLLABUS

This message brought to you by every instructor that ever lived.

Title: "It's in the syllabus" - originally published 5/10/2013
Lecture 1:
MWF 9:55-10:45 AM
Room: Ingraham Hall B10

Canvas URL:  https://canvas.wisc.edu/courses/105405

Office Hours Scheduled
Mondays 2:30-5:00 PM in Noland 379
Tuesdays 9:30-11:30 AM in Chem 1371
Wednesdays 2:30-5:00 PM in Noland 379
(or by appointment)

Teaching Assistants
Stephanie Chong-Macais  messon@chem.wisc.edu
Maddie Herman  amccoy@chem.wisc.edu
Minxue Huang  yshin@chem.wisc.edu

TA Office Hours

TA office hours are held in Chemistry B317 (Organic TA Office)
There is a schedule for various TA office hours posted outside Chem B317. The TA’s on the schedule are organic chemists and can answer your questions. They do not have to be assigned to our lecture section. I will be talking about topics in a different order than other Chem 343 instructors as such it may take the TA a little bit of time to answer a question. (If someone asks me a question regarding general chemistry, I have to think quite a bit to figure out the correct answer. Though the deer in the headlight look in my eye usually is enough to convince them to find a gen chem TA).
Learning Outcomes:

a.) Students will learn how to master an intellectual discipline that requires both understanding of a complex conceptual framework and memorization of specific facts. This general goal will be pursued in the specific context provided by introductory organic chemistry. There are different paths to achieving this learning outcome, because different people learn in distinct ways. Students will be challenged to determine the learning strategies and styles that are most effective for them. Achieving this learning outcome will empower students to master other disciplines they encounter subsequently as they pursue diverse careers. These later challenges will arise without the framework provided by a syllabus, a textbook, lectures, discussion sections and frequent assessments (exams). Therefore, Chemistry 343 and 345 are taught in a manner that encourages students to take responsibility for their own learning success.

b.) Interpret, visualize, and predict reactivity of molecules by their Lewis structures

c.) Solve problems by using different approaches

Grading:
The grade will be based on:
Exams (3 x 100 points)
Quizzes (3 x 10 points) If there are more than three quizzes, the lowest quizzes will be dropped.
Final Exam (200 points)
Some extra credit points (~5 points will be available)
The maximum number of points possible will be 530 points.

**ABCDF:**
If you earn 90% of the total points, you will receive an A.
If you earn 77% of the total points, you will receive at least a B.
If you earn 57% of the total points, you will receive at least a C.
If you earn 40% of the total points, you will receive at least a D.
There is more information further on in the syllabus.
ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

The University of Wisconsin-Madison supports the right of all enrolled students to a full and equal educational opportunity. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Wisconsin State Statute (36.12), and UW-Madison policy (Faculty Document 1071) require that students with disabilities be reasonably accommodated in instruction and campus life. Reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities is a shared faculty and student responsibility. Students are expected to inform Matt of their need for instructional accommodations by the end of the third week of the semester, or as soon as possible after a disability has been incurred or recognized. Matt, will work either directly with you or in coordination with the McBurney Center to identify and provide reasonable instructional accommodations. Disability information, including instructional accommodations as part of a student's educational record, is confidential and protected under FERPA. [http://mcburney.wisc.edu/facstaffother/faculty/syllabus.php](http://mcburney.wisc.edu/facstaffother/faculty/syllabus.php)

DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

**Institutional statement on diversity:** “Diversity is a source of strength, creativity, and innovation for UW-Madison. We value the contributions of each person and respect the profound ways their identity, culture, background, experience, status, abilities, and opinion enrich the university community. We commit ourselves to the pursuit of excellence in teaching, research, outreach, and diversity as inextricably linked goals.

The University of Wisconsin-Madison fulfills its public mission by creating a welcoming and inclusive community for people from every background – people who as students, faculty, and staff serve Wisconsin and the world.” [https://diversity.wisc.edu/](https://diversity.wisc.edu/)
**Matt’s Schedule:**

Matt Bowman this fall is lecturing for two courses Chem 341 and Chem 343. There are 180 students in 341 and 370 students in 343. Matt will try to keep everything straight, but will not remember necessarily which student is in which lecture. These lectures are back to back but in different buildings. Because he has to split his mind to deal with each class, he might not be completely there. There will be weeks in which there will be an exam happening for both classes. Actually, on one day, both classes will have an exam. At which point, any vestiges of his sanity will disappear and there will be drool, *lots and lots of drool.* (His sanity is not being helped much right now as Matt Bowman is writing in the third person). Please state in any email correspondence with him whether you are in 341 or 343. The answer to your questions may differ significantly. Please be patient. If he does not respond within 12 hours, try again.

**Chem 341 begins right after Chem 343 in a different building. As a result, Matt cannot answer any questions right after lecture as he needs to pack up the computer and head to the Psychology building.**

Also, he does have a hand in at least one laboratory course (Chem 342) so again please be patient.
Textbook: *Organic Chemistry, 6th Ed.*, Marc Loudon

Quite a few of my course evaluations in the past stated that they never read or opened the book. I do not recommend this course of action, but I do understand it. I follow a different order than the textbook, but the material from Chapters 1-11 and 14-15 will be covered. The course schedule has page numbers containing relevant information from the text along with key words that you can use in an index of any organic textbook for other explanations. Instructors of Chem 344 and 345 may expect you to have this textbook for these future courses. Exams and quizzes are based on the material from lectures, power point tutorials, video lectures, discussion sections, and problem sets. The book is there to provide alternative explanations/approaches to help you understand the material covered.

**Powerpoint tutorials**

There is some subject matter that can be best explained by the book or a simple powerpoint tutorial. These tutorials are available at canvas. Please go through them *by* the indicated date on the course schedule.

**Video lectures**

Canvas will host a variety of video lectures. These are typically 5-10 minutes long. They are there to highlight important concepts or clarify points in organic chemistry.

**Lecture Capture**

I will do my best to record all of the lectures on video and post them on canvas. However, please still come to lecture. Sometimes technical difficulties occur and a lecture is not available.

**Problem sets**

There will be a problem set for each lecture day except for the day of an exam or the day preceding an exam. These problem sets will not be graded and are there to help you out. Keys will be available by the next lecture day on canvas.

**Practice exams**

I will make at least three practice exams available for each exam. The exams will be very similar to the practice exams in terms of directions. Answer keys for these exams will also be available. **DO NOT SIMPLY LOOK AT THE KEY. ATTEMPT THE PRACTICE EXAM FIRST. HAVE ANOTHER STUDENT IN THE CLASS GRADE IT AS YOU GRADE THEIRS. DISCUSS DISCREPANCIES AND ONLY THEN LOOK AT THE KEY.**
Mental Health Resources:

Now is as good as time as any to talk about mental health. I realize you are under a lot of pressure. Some of that pressure is internal and some of that is external. Regardless of the source of the pressure, the pressure is very real. Students have a tendency to equate grades with future happiness. It is an understandable connection, but not really a true one. I have quite a few C’s on my undergraduate transcript (a few in chemistry) and I still ended up with my dream job. I have had a student that received an F in organic chemistry and had to retake the class. She went on to medical school. So, a low grade is not the end of the world.

If disaster happens or at anytime you feel that you cannot cope with something, or just need to vent, there are resources available on campus for you. Take advantage of them.

University Health Services (UHS):
Offers group, individual, couple/partner therapy stress management, and disordered eating assessments and treatment at no cost. It also provides massage therapy, yoga, and other wellness services.
Student Activity Center 7th floor  608-265-5600
www.uhs.wisc.edu/mentalhealth/getting-started

Ask.Listen.Save:  
Ask.Listen.Save. is a student org that aims to prevent suicide by reducing the stigma of mental illness. Through educating the student body, they aim to increase the awareness and create a safe environment in which students know they are not alone and can feel free to ask for help.
Student Activity Center Suite 3196  www.Asklistensave.org

Badgerspill:  
BadgerSpill is a peer-to-peer support network of and for UW-Madison students. You can write in online to “spill” or vent privately about whatever you are going through and get unbiased feedback, empathy, and resources from other students who have dealt with similar situations. Both parties are anonymous to one another and the spiller gets multiple responses within 24 hours.
www.badgerspill.com

Please look on the canvas page for the mental health resource sheet for more resources.
Grading (As transparent as I can be)

The grade will be based on exams and quizzes. The maximum number of points possible will be 530 points. (There will be more than that available).

**ABCD SIMPLY STATED**
If you earn 90% of the total points, you will receive an A.
If you earn 77% of the total points, you will receive at least a B.
If you earn 57% of the total points, you will receive at least a C.
If you earn 40% of the total points, you will receive at least a D.

So if you receive an 88%, this can be an A, AB, or B depending on the final distribution. 89.5% is considered to be 90%. 89.9999999999999999999999999999999999999999999999999999999999% is considered to be 89%. That is just how it is.

The actual lines are determined by a mixture of factors: final distribution, the historical grade history of all of the sections of Chem 345, the phase of the moon, where the darts end up on the board, improvement in the course, etc... There are a few things that I can say with certainty:
The 40% line is a hard line. Any score below that will be an F. Regardless what exam averages are.
The C line will never be lowered below 50%. A 52% may be a C or D. Confusion about curves and AB’s and BC’s. The AB range and BC range is very small. Historically for organic chemistry it is small. For my classes, it has typically been one or two percentage points.

**The cutoffs represented above are the curve.** This is based on several semesters of organic chemistry, so you know how you are doing throughout the semester. The lines may dip a little, but not much. Especially the A line. The last few times I’ve taught, it has barely budged. Please do not be surprised if your total points are 85% and your letter grade is a B. If the lines are lowered, they will be lowered so that 25% of the class will receive at least an AB and at least 55% of the class will receive at least a BC. The DF line will not move and the C line will never dip below 50%.

**The Final Cutoffs will not be released.** There will always be someone with the highest AB, highest B, and so on. That is the way of the world. It is conceivable that someone will miss a cutoff by one point. We will try to choose the cutoffs so that does not happen.
Exams:
There are three regular exams plus the final exam. Each regular exam will be worth 100 points. The regular exams will be Wednesday evening exams held from 7:15 to 8:45 pm in Ingraham B10. Please check your schedules for potential conflicts. The dates are October 3, October 24, and November 14. Please notify me of any conflicts so alternative arrangements can be made. You may not drop any exam. The final exam is worth 200 points and cannot be dropped. It will take place on Friday, December 17 from 5:05 pm to 7:05 pm. Unfortunately, this date is set by the University and I can only grant makeup exams in a VERY limited manner such as two exams within a 24 hour period. Please do not ask for a makeup exam due to airline tickets going home for Christmas. I’m afraid that is not listed as a valid reason.

Exams will be graded and returned at the next lecture. PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE PICK THEM UP. LOOK AT THEM. UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU HAVE MISSED. MAKE SURE THE SCORES WERE ENTERED CORRECTLY. YOU WILL HAVE ONLY ONE WEEK TO REPORT DISCREPANCIES. If you pick up your exam within one week of taking the exam, you will receive one extra credit point.

Exam regrade policy: Mistakes in exam grading will occasionally be made. You will have one week after exams are returned to submit the entire exam for regrading. Keep in mind, since mistakes may or may not be in your favor, the exam grade can actually be lowered. All decisions on the regrades are final. DO NOT UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES CHANGE AN ANSWER AND SUBMIT IT FOR A REGRADE. THIS IS ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT AND WILL BE DEALT WITH HARSHLY.

Regrade submittal procedure: Email Matt that you are submitting an exam for a regrade. Write on the exam score sheet which problem needs to be regraded and why. DO NOT CHANGE ANYTHING ELSE. Place the exam in Matt Bowman’s mailbox in Chemistry 1146.

Final Exam Regrades: Final Exams will be posted to canvas accounts as soon as we are able to. Once posted, an email as well as the exam key will be sent to all students. At that point, you will have 24 h to proofread the grading and contact Matt with any errors. After 24 h have passed, Matt will set the final cutoffs and set grades. The final cutoffs will not be released.
Exam Penalties:
Though technically, the regular exams are worth 100 points apiece and the final exam is worth 200 points, it is possible to score a negative value on the exam. There are four exam penalties that you should be aware of and AVOID at all costs. CONSIDER YOURSELF WARNED.

Texas Carbon Penalty (TCP): If one of your answers has a carbon drawn that has five bonds to it, that is an affront to organic chemistry. Such a blasphemous creation will result in a five point penalty in addition to missing any points on that question.

Acid-Base Arrow Question (ABAQ): To describe what is happening in a reaction, chemists used the curved arrow notation. This shows the movement of electrons. The most important example of this is in acid-base reactions. I will show you the answer to this question along with examples of wrong answers. THIS IS THE ONE OF THE MOST FUNDAMENTAL CONCEPTS IN ORGANIC CHEMISTRY. It is used in 343, 345, 344, biochemistry, etc… If you cannot answer this question, then -5 points.

Name Penalty: The most important question on any exam is the one that has you fill in the following blank:
Name:___________
Yet, the number of people that do not do this are staggering. (8% of the exams one semester left this blank or missed it).
EIGHT PERCENT!!!!!!! There is no excuse for this. THIS IS YOUR WARNING!
1.) You will need to write your name (First and Last) on the name line appearing on the scoresheet and the page with problem one.
2.) You will need to write the first two letters of your last name (legibly) in a box. (NOT INITIALS)

You must do both of these to avoid the Name penalty. This penalty will be two points.
If you email me the word “scarab” in the subject line by Monday, Sep 10 you will receive 2 bonus points. By Monday, Sep 17, it will only be one bonus point. After Sep 17 no points will be awarded.

Time Penalty: Writing on the exam before the TA’s say start or after time is called can be a five point penalty.
A reminder for the meme generation:

Extra credit opportunity: You will receive one point for picking up your midterm within one week of taking it. You can pick up your exam during Matt’s office hours or during the lecture following the exam. That is 3 points total.
Take Home Quizzes:

There will be four take-home quizzes worth 10 points each. You can drop one quiz. They will be due the following week in Matt Bowman’s mailbox in Chemistry 1146. The take home quiz is open book, open note, open classmate, but is not open TA/tutor/me. By open classmate I mean it is okay to converse with one another, but it is absolutely **NOT** okay to dissect each other or figure out answers by the use of haruspicy. In any event, I suggest you try the quiz on your own first. **I would tell you the dates in the syllabus about when these quizzes are, but that would involve a level of organization that frankly I do not possess.**

Letter of Recommendation Policee:

I try to teach about ~ 802.5 undergraduates each year. Unfortunately I won't be able to get to know all of you. That makes writing detailed rec letters nearly impossible. Rec letters from me will include grade and class rank and my impression of you. I can write them but I highly suggest that you get a rec from a prof in a small, higher level course or better yet a prof that you work four in a research group. They are more likely to give a better and more fuller depiction of you and will likely use spell check.

Piled Higher and Deeper by Jorge Cham

![My Writing Style](https://www.phdcomics.com/comics/archive_print.php?comicid=1919)

**MY WRITING STYLE**

Think carefully about each word before typing it.

Keep pressing random buttons and hope something coherent comes out.

**HOW I WRITE**

Yup. That pretty much sums me up (only more to the right on that particular writing spectrum).
Academic Misconduct

You are all adults. There is no reason to cheat, but plenty of reasons not to. An F in the course is one of many reasons. Cheat sheets, notes, textbooks, someone else's paper, iPods, cell phones, a crystal ball bearing the disembodied spirit of the Great Organic Chemist R. B. Woodward, etc... are prohibited from the exam. Use of these prohibited materials during an exam will result in a zero for the exam score. A zero on an exam due to cheating cannot be dropped. You will only be allowed pencils/pens and model kits for the exams.

A percentage of the exams will be photocopied. Should an answer be changed and submitted for a regrading, academic misconduct has occurred and the perpetrator will receive an F in the course and be reported to the Dean’s office.

Since it is possible that not all students will take the exam at the same time, it is theoretically possible for some students to receive advance knowledge of an exam. Students leaking test questions to other students that have not taken the exam is also regarded as academic misconduct and shall be dealt with accordingly.

I have been advised by the staff (some of them legal staff) that I cannot use pepper spray in dealing with wandering eyes. I will try to remember to remind the TAs proctoring the exams of that advice. If the TAs suspect anyone of this condition, they will announce for everyone to keep their eyes on their paper. If the problem persists, the TAs have the discretionary power to move any student suspected during an exam. You must be above reproach. Exams of adjacent students will be examined, and should there be ample evidence, lower exam scores including zeroes will be given to the perpetrator. Please fight against wandering eyes. Please shield your paper the best you can to remove any temptation from others.

DO NOT TRY TO CHEAT. I have failed students in the past and I will not hesitate to do so this semester. I have no patience or respect for those that cheat.
Study tips

Between 1-4 hours after each lecture, start the problem set. **Do not wait for the answer key to be posted to start the problem set.** Between 4-8 hours after each lecture, recopy your notes for that lecture. Look for the patterns.

Organic chemistry is very cumulative. Once you start, you cannot stop. (Oh and you need to start right away). Material on exam I will be tested again on exams II, III, and the Final. Likewise, with subsequent topics. The problem sets will not only cover current material but past material as well.

In the course schedule, the relevant page numbers from the text are listed. The exams are going to be based on the material from the lectures, lecture notes, problem sets, and discussions. The text is there to help you understand the material. I strongly suggest that you read the relevant pages either before or after lecture.

Make flash cards. Carry these with you wherever you go. Flip through them throughout each day.

A very good way to study is to study in groups. Multiple problem sets will be available to work on along with several practice exams. I suggest you form groups to study in. You can go about this by talking to classmates in discussion, etc... The sooner you set up these groups the better off you will be. If you wish a classroom to meet in, I can see about reserving one for you.

The best way to understand organic chemistry is constant practice. The TA's and I will do our best to provide quite a bit of practice in the form of problem sets and practice exams. Should you desire more practice, there are the problems at the end of each chapter in the book as well as multiple websites. Should you find a discrepancy in what the TA's, book, internet, or myself, please bring it to our attention immediately. It may be a case of a subtlety, an outright error, or an over generalization. Regardless, we'll try to explain the discrepancy.
Discussion Sections
Due to the generous funding by the Madison Initiative for Undergraduates and the College of Letters and Science, we are able to offer discussion sections. There is a lot of material to cover, and little time to cover it. Sometimes, what I can briefly cover in the lecture will be better covered in your discussion section. The TAs in this course have experience in teaching organic chemistry, through labs, discussion sections, and tutoring. They may have a different way of looking at a topic. As a result, if you do not understand something from me, you may understand it from them.

Proper use of discussion sections:
Make mistakes. People learn from mistakes. Be vocal. Go to the front of the board and write your answers. If they are correct, congratulations. If they are incorrect, all the better as it gives an opportunity to learn something and help out your fellow classmates. There are many correct answers in organic chemistry (and many more incorrect ones). The TA’s are there to give insight on the nuances of organic chemistry.

Improper use of discussion sections:
Just sitting there.
Additional Help

In addition to the TA's and my office hours, there are a couple of places where you can find assistance.

The Organic TA Office is in room B317. There is a schedule posted outside the door of various TA's and when they will be available to help you. Feel free to ask any of them for help even if they are not a TA for Chem 343.

Alpha Chi Sigma Chemistry Fraternity has offered tutoring for chemistry classes in the past. Please contact them about their current help sessions.

GUTS offers tutors as well. They can be contacted at:
Student Activity Center
Office #4413
333 E Campus Mall
Madison, WI 53715-1380
Phone: 608-263-5666
E-mail: guts@rso.wisc.edu
http://guts.studentorg.wisc.edu/

There are also private tutors available. The General Chemistry Office (Room 1328) has a list of tutors and prices.

There are also private tutors available. The General Chemistry Office (Room 1328) has a list of tutors and prices. If you do work with a tutor, please let them know that I post notes, problem sets, practice exams, and tutorials on canvas. Anyone can access that page by using the following url:

https://canvas.wisc.edu/courses/105405

Peer Learning Association-University of Wisconsin-Madison

PLA is a student lead organization that offers additional help organized outside of class discussion. Lead by a facilitator who has already successfully completed chemistry 343 you will meet once a week and discuss the past weeks materials. For more information, email uwplastaff@gmail.com.
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<td>Page numbers are from Organic Chemistry 6th edition Marc Loudon</td>
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<td>5 Periodic Trends and Lewis Structures Pages 1-13</td>
<td>6 Tutorial: Nomenclature I Alkyl halides and alkanes</td>
<td>7 Bonding/Molecular Interactions Pages 22-38 and 334-366</td>
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<td>Alkanes Conformations Pages 45-78</td>
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<td>Stereoisomers Enantiomers Pages 229-271</td>
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<td>NOTES: 1-adamantylamine is an antiviral that was once used to treat influenza but no longer. Side effects include “nervousness, anxiety, agitation, insomnia, difficulty in concentrating” according to Wikipedia. Yep, 1-adamantylamine is definitely a molecule to associate with organic chemistry.</td>
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<td>Alkyne Bond Forming Reaction Pages 698-699</td>
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NOTES:
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<td>Dissolving Metal Mechanism/Alkyne hydration Pages 690-697</td>
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<td>Ozonolysis Pages 198-202</td>
<td>Alcohol Oxidation Hydrate formation Pages 476-485, 963-966</td>
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NOTES:
Chloral hydrate is an example of a stable hydrate due to the presence of three electronegative chlorines destabilizing the aldehyde. It is widely used in 1920 crime novels as knockout drops or "Mickies." On a historical basis though, it the cheap starting material for the infamous insectide DDT, which limited the spread of malaria and bald eagles.
## Notes:

CS gas (more commonly known as tear gas) is actually a solid that melts around 93 °C. Typically, it is dissolved in an inert non-flammable solvent such as dichloromethane and packed into cannisters. Upon pulling a pen, a small incendiary vaporizes the solution and spreads it. It acts as a *REVERSIBLE* Michael acceptor to nucleophilic sites around the eyes. This causes the burning sensation.
**Chem 343: Survey**

Please answer the following questions so I can adapt Chem 343 to better suit your needs. Please turn this page in to Matt Bowman's mailbox in Chemistry 1146 by September 13.

What is your year? (Freshman, Grad Student, Returning Adult, etc...)

What is your major?

What do you hope to get out of this class? (Besides a good grade)

When is the ideal time for office hours (day and time)?

Do you learn a lot from textbooks?

What other classes are you currently enrolled in?
Add these numbers together:

946251.074373

30480.465

677552.84