Chemistry 231: Organic Chemistry (Second Semester)
Rio Hondo College, Spring, 2005
Instructor: Mr. Matt Koutroulis

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Office Hours: Mondays: 10:45-11:30 am, 4:20-4:50pm/Tuesdays: 10:45-11:30am/

Wednesdays: 4:20-4:50pm  in Room S320B
Office Phone: (562) 692-0921 ext. 3690
Textbooks: Organic Chemistry, 4th Edition by P. Bruice (required);
Study Guide/Solutions Manual (required);
Laboratory Textbook and Materials: Introduction to Organic Laboratory Techniques: A Small
Scale Approach, 2nd Ed. by Pavia, et. al. (required); Lab notebook with duplicate sheets
(required); Safety Glasses/Goggles (required) and Lab Coat/Apron (strongly
recommended)
Other Supplements: Molecular Model Set for Organic Chemistry (recommended)

Course Description: This course is the second of a two-semester sequence addressing the
fundamental principles of organic chemistry, emphasizing the structure and reactivity of
aromatic and carbonyl compounds. In addition, significant study will be devoted to bioorganic
compounds, including carbohydrates and amino acids. The course is directed mainly at
chemistry and life science majors, including students intending to enroll in medical, dental, and
pharmacy school later in their academic career.

Prerequisites: Chemistry 230 with a grade of “C” or better.

Grading: I anticipate that grades will be determined by the following items: three midterms
(300 points), a final examination (150 points), quizzes (100 points), and laboratory (198 points)
for a tentative total of 748 points. This total may vary if additional assignments are given or if
any assignments are deleted. I will use the following scale in assigning grades:
A: 88-100%  B: 76-87%  C: 64-75%  D: 52-63%  F: <52%
I may, at my option, adjust the requirements for a grade to a lower percentage, based on review
of the performance of the entire class at the end of the semester (curving). However, so long
as you are in a particular percentage range, you will not receive any grade lower than the one
which corresponds to your point total (unless you do not pass the lab or do not take the final
examination). In order to pass the class with a grade of “C” or higher, each of the following
requirements must be met:
• You must take the final examination,
• You must score at least 65% or greater on the laboratory portion of the course.
At my option, students who miss two lab periods without a documented excuse may be
dropped from the course or be given a grade of “F” if past the drop deadline. Please come and
speak with me personally if you are concerned that attendance may become an issue. I am
aware that emergencies do occur, and I can be flexible in meeting your needs if circumstances
arise which impede your progress in this course.

Examinations: Three examinations will be given over the course of the semester worth 100
points each. Please note that none of these scores will be dropped. Since concepts you use in
earlier parts are continuously used throughout later parts of the course, each exam is cumulative, although emphasis is always placed on the most recently covered material. It is rarely possible to make-up a missed exam. Alternative arrangements may be made in cases where outstanding circumstances are present (severe illness, etc.), but must be approved by me in advance. Examination dates are indicated on the lecture schedule. Note that molecular model kits may be used on all exams.

Quizzes: Twelve quizzes (10 points each) will be administered during the course. The lowest quiz score will be dropped. The last quiz is a “bonus” quiz, for extra credit. Missed quizzes cannot be made up under any circumstance, excused or otherwise.

Final Examination: Wednesday, May 11, 10:30 am–12:30 pm. Please make a note of the early start time! The exam will be comprehensive. You must take the final examination at this time; alternative arrangements will only be made in cases of serious injury to yourself or death in the immediate family. No other excuses will be accepted, including vacation travel, family commitments, etc.

Attendance: Attendance will be taken for all lecture and laboratory sessions. Students missing multiple lectures without documented excuses (such as a doctor’s note) may be dropped from the class. Students failing to complete two or more laboratory reports will be dropped from the class or given a failing grade if past the deadline. Please come talk to me as soon as possible if you have extenuating circumstances that may prevent this.

Homework: A list of homework problems from the textbook will be provided. While these problems are ultimately not graded for credit, they will give you greater mastery of the material and should ultimately lead to better performance on examinations and quizzes. It is in your best interests to complete these problems and to do any additional work necessary to practice your skills.

Academic Honesty: Cheating in Chemistry 231 will result in dire consequences. Any student found copying another’s work on an assignment will receive no credit for that assignment. The same penalty applies for a student who allows another to cheat off of them. If this should happen more than once, the student will receive a grade of “F” in the class and the student will be referred to the Dean for discipline. Any student who cheats on an examination will receive an “F” in the class, and the student will be referred to the Dean.

Some Important College-wide Dates:

- **Last Day to Add Courses** January 26, 2004
- **Last Day to Drop Courses without a “W”** January 26, 2004
- **Last Day to Drop Courses (with a “W”)** April 20, 2004

Best Wishes for a Successful Semester!