Course Requirements:
Prerequisites for Chem 252.4: C or better in Chem 251.4 and 251.1
Pre or corequisite: Chem 252.1 (C or better if prerequisite)

Note: a C- in any pre or corequisite will not permit you to take 252.4/252.1!
You must earn a C or better in Chem 252.4 and 252.1 to go on to upper level chemistry courses.

You will need access to Blackboard for handouts, including this syllabus. It is your responsibility to provide a valid e-mail address that you monitor. Announcements will be made via Blackboard and e-mail.

Lecture: Tu, Th 4:20 - 6:10 PM, Rm 101 Remsen Hall
Professor William H. Hersh, 109 Remsen Hall
Office Hour: Thursday, 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM and by appointment
Telephone: 718-997-4144
e-mail: william.hersh@qc.cuny.edu - best way to contact Prof. Hersh


The text contains many problems similar to those that will be given on exams. You should do the problems that appear in the body of the text and at the end of each chapter. These problems will not be graded. These problems should be done together with the optional on-line problems (see below); the on-line problems are not enough by themselves to prepare you to do well in this course.

If you want to understand the lecture material, you must read the textbook chapter before class. For the vast majority of students, it is not possible to understand lecture material if you are seeing it for the first time in class! When you read the textbook and do problems in the text with the reading, plan for a pace of about 4 pages/hour. Do not read it like a novel if you hope to learn the material.

OPTIONAL ON-LINE PROBLEMS: The on-line problem grade will be a bonus (see Grading below) added to your mid-term and final exam grades. These problems are strongly recommended but not required. See “Course Preparation and Advice” section below for more information on the recommendation.

You can purchase access at the Sapling Learning on-line problem web site for this course. The cost is $40.

Go to www.saplinglearning.com/login to log in or create an account. Detailed instructions on how to register for the course may be found at:
https://community.macmillan.com/docs/DOC-5972-sapling-learning-registering-for-courses

During sign up or throughout the term, if you have any technical problems or system questions, for direct assistance, please fill out the support request form, located in the College Student Support Community at:
https://community.macmillan.com/community/digital-product-support/college-students-support-community

The course is listed under "City University of New York, Queens College (CUNY Queens)" and then look for "CUNY Queens College - CHEM 252.4 – Fall17 - HERSH." For each problem there are hints and answers, and for most there is explanatory reading material that you can access at the right hand side of the page in the Resources box under “Help with this topic” linking you to the textbook (labeled “Loudon – Organic Chemistry”), so if you are having trouble with the problems, there is a wealth of information available to help you. There is a training module (with extra credit) that you can complete before you start on the chapter problems.

While studying organic with other students is recommended, you will get the maximum benefit from these problems by doing them on your own, and not doing them at the last minute. On-line problem due dates will be announced in class, and will always be by 12 noon on the day recitation problems for that chapter are done in class.

Recommended: Molecular model kit (available on-line, about $20-60; the ~$30 kits on Amazon look good)

The points from the on-line homework will simply be added to your total exam points, and the new total graded out of 100. Therefore, any amount of homework done will raise your grade.

The final exam will be the American Chemical Society First Term Organic exam. The study guide (which covers both semesters) can be purchased for $23 on-line at [http://shopping.na1.netsuite.com/s.nl/c.3773982/sc.11/category.191/](http://shopping.na1.netsuite.com/s.nl/c.3773982/sc.11/category.191/) and there is a bundled on-line practice exam that can be included for a total of $27.

Grades on the ACS Final will be the percentile grade from the national norms, not the percent correct.

**Exams will stress lecture material and recitation problems.**

You will have the entire class period of 1 hr 50 min for exams.

**Bring photo ID to exams.**

You **will** be permitted to use molecular models during mid-term exams **but not on the final exam.** You will **not** be permitted to use books, notes, computers, or calculators during exams. Cell phones are strictly prohibited for class and exams. If you have any questions concerning the grading, see Dr. Hersh within 10 days following the exam.

There are absolutely no regrades for exams taken in pencil. If you want to have the possibility of a regrade for any reason, you must take the exam in pen.

All re-grade requests must be made in writing and attached to the exam; do not **under any circumstances** write anything on the exam itself. **Exams are scanned prior to being returned.** There are no make-up exams. Written verification of your reason for missing an exam is required; your grade will be based on the exams you have taken.

Cheating of any kind will not be tolerated. Your entire exam grade will be zero, and you will be brought up on charges of academic dishonesty to the College.

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<th>Date</th>
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**Dec. 12 Exam 3 Chapters 21 - 24**

**Dec. 14 or 19 (tentative), Final Exam: ACS Final Exam Chapters 1 - 24**

Classes follow a Thursday schedule on Tuesday Sept. 19 (affects lab, not lecture).

Classes follow a Friday schedule on Tuesday Nov. 21.

*Find the mistake in this problem. **These may be particularly hard.
Course Preparation and Advice: Understanding the basic concepts from Organic Chemistry I is critical. Read the book before lecture; take seriously the instructions that you really do need to know and understand every reaction (no exceptions). Do problems in the text, and do the on-line problems on your own and not at the last minute – take your time and understand them. Understanding mechanisms will help you remember the reactions. In most cases hiring a tutor will not help and most likely will be a hindrance because you will rely on the tutor rather than yourself.

Last semester 75% of the class voted to continue the on-line homework this semester, even though as a group you thought it was only slightly helpful. However, over the past year, 60% of students who averaged above 90 on the Sapling homework in Chem 251 and 252 got A’s and B’s, while 67% who averaged below 80 got grades of C-, D, or F. In that group, there were no A’s, and 5% B’s. There is no way to determine what percent of students looked up answers on the Internet etc, but these numbers suggest the on-line homework is either more helpful or more predictive of your grade than you thought.

Course Objectives: Students will complete their initial one year course in organic chemistry, with topics including alkynes, dienes and aromatic compounds, the chemistry of the carbonyl and related functional groups, amines, and an introduction to the chemistry of one of the important classes of biological molecules, carbohydrates. At the conclusion, students will have a solid foundation in organic chemistry that will enable them to carry out organic chemistry research and understand the molecular basis of biochemical processes.

Assessment: Contrary to its reputation, success in organic chemistry depends far more on understanding of course material than on rote memorization. Problem solving ability will be tested on exams, and representative problems will be discussed in lecture recitations and will be found in the textbook, on the Blackboard course site, and in graded on-line problems for each chapter. Careful reading of the textbook prior to lectures, and attendance at all lectures, is strongly recommended.

Understanding of the course material will be assessed via three 1 hour midterm exams (you will have 1 hr 50 minutes to do them) and one final exam; the final exam will be the American Chemical Society exam and will be comprehensive for both semesters. Since organic chemistry is a cumulative subject, it is not possible to succeed in this course without knowing the first semester material, so any exam is in effect cumulative. The ACS exam is nationally normed, allowing comparison to students at other schools.

GRADE KEY. This course is not graded on a curve. Everyone in the class can get an A, or everyone can get an F. There is no predetermined percentage of the class that will get any particular grade. The key for all exams is shown below, except for + and – cutoffs. For instance, while “A” is shown as 85-100, an average of 85 will be an A-, and while “B” is shown as 70-84, the cutoffs are approximately 1/3 in each range, i.e. around 70-74 B-, 75-79 B, 80-84 B+. The exact ranges will not be given out except for the C cutoff, since you need a C to go on to further chemistry courses.

The ranges given will never be raised, but they have on occasion been lowered if a test was too hard.

85-100 A
70-84 B
60-69 C
55-59 C-
45-54 D
0-44 F