Chemistry 252.4 (Organic Chemistry II) – Fall 2020  
(Pre-requisite: Grade of C or Higher in Chemistry 251.4 & 251.1) 
Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry  
Queens College – CUNY  
65-30 Kissena Blvd., Flushing, NY 11367

Lecture & Recitation – Tuesday & Thursday (4:20 – 6:10 pm); online  
Instructor: Professor Yu Chen, Remsen 206 F  
Email: yu.chen1@qc.cuny.edu  
Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm (online)

Students who participate in this class with their camera on or use a profile image are agreeing to have their video or image recorded solely for the purpose of creating a record for students enrolled in the class to refer to, including those enrolled students who are unable to attend live. If you are unwilling to consent to have your profile or video image recorded, be sure to keep your camera off and do not use a profile image. Likewise, students who un-mute during class and participate orally are agreeing to have their voices recorded. If you are not willing to consent to have your voice recorded during class, you will need to keep your mute button activated and communicate exclusively using the "chat" feature, which allows students to type questions and comments live.

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.

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.


Ancillary:  
2) Online homework from Sapling Learning (see page #3 for details, and more details will be announced in the first lecture on Aug. 27th, 2020).


Examinations: There will be three 100-point mid-term exams (open book exams), and one 100-point final exam (open book exam), to be held online as scheduled below.
Grades: The online homework from Sapling Learning is counted as 15% in the final grade. The lowest grade of the four exams is counted as 10%; and each of the rest three exams is counted as 25% in the final grade.

*(Note: There is no make-up exam.)* If a student is sick on a scheduled exam day and cannot take the exam, he/she should provide a medical doctor’s note to Dr. Chen immediately after he/she recovers. Each of the rest three exams he/she takes is counted as 30% in the final grade together with 10% online homework grade.

Grading Scale: 90-100 (A); 86-89 (A-); 82-85 (B+); 78-81 (B); 74-77 (B-); 70-73 (C+); 65-69 (C); 60-64 (C-); 50-59 (D); < 50 (F).

General Guidelines: You must attend all the class examinations and laboratory sessions. In case of an emergency that you are unable to attend a class examination or a laboratory session, a legal valid proof of absence must be presented. In the event that you are unable to furnish a valid proof of absence within reasonable time periods, a zero grade will be assigned for the examination. You must be able to use Blackboard for accessing the course materials. It is strongly recommended that you use Queens College email account for effective communication with the instructor. Any other specific information regarding the course will be provided by the instructor in the first lecture, scheduled on Aug. 27th, 2020.

Schedule of Classes and Examinations:

2. Chapter 14 – Alkynes – 9/8; 9/10
3. Chapter 15 – Dienes, Resonance, and Aromaticity – 9/15; 9/17
4. Chapter 16 – Chemistry of Benzene and Its Derivatives – 9/22; 9/24
5. Chapter 17 – Allylic and Benzylic Reactivity – 10/1; 10/6

First Mid-term Examination – Chapters 11 through 16 – 10/8

6. Chapter 18 – Aryl and Vinylic Halides, Phenols, and Transition Metal Catalysis – 10/13; 10/15
7. Chapter 19 – Aldehydes and Ketones – 10/20; 10/22
8. Chapter 20 – Carboxylic Acids – 10/27; 10/29
9. Chapter 21 – Carboxylic Acid Derivatives – 11/3; 11/5; 11/10

Second Mid-Term Examination – Chapters 17 through 20 – 11/12

10. Chapter 22 – Enolate Ions, Enols, and α,β-Unsaturated Carbonyl Compounds – 11/17; 11/19; 11/24
11. Chapter 23 – Amines – 12/1; 12/3;

Third Mid-Term Examination – Chapters 21, 22 and 23 – 12/8

FINAL EXAMINATION – Chapters 1-23; but mostly Chapters 11 and 14-23 – TBA

*: A thirty minute recitation will be held in class after the lecture of each chapter.
FROM: Sapling Learning - Organic Chemistry Question Sets

Sapling's chemistry questions are delivered in a web browser to provide real-time grading, response-specific coaching, improvement of problem-solving skills, and detailed answer explanations. Dynamic answer modules enable one to interact with 3D models and figures, utilize drag-and-drop synthetic routes, and draw chemical structures - including stereochemistry and curved arrows. Altogether, Sapling is cheaper than a tutor, provides more value than a solutions manual, and goes beyond a mere assessment exercise to give a learning experience.

We will be using Sapling Learning for graded homework. To get started:

2. a) If you already have a Sapling Learning account, log in and skip to step 3.
   b) If you have a Facebook account, you can use it to quickly create a SaplingLearning account. Click the blue button with the Facebook symbol on it (just to the left of the username field). The form will auto-fill with information from your Facebook account (you may need to log into Facebook in the popup window first). Choose a password and timezone, accept the site policy agreement, and click "Create my new account". You can then skip to step 3.
   c) Otherwise, click "create account". Supply the requested information and click "Create my new account". Check your email (and spam filter) for a message from Sapling Learning and click on the link provided in that email.
3. Find your course in the list (listed by subject, term, and instructor) and click the link.
4. Select your payment options and follow the remaining instructions.
5. Work on the Sapling Learning training materials. The activities, videos, and information pages will familiarize you with the Sapling Learning user environment and serve as tutorials for efficiently drawing molecules, stereochemistry, etc. within the Sapling Learning answer modules. These training materials are already accessible in your Sapling Learning course.
6. • Once you have registered and enrolled, you can log in at any time to complete or review your homework assignments.
   • During sign up - and throughout the term - if you have any technical problems or grading issues, send an email to support@saplinglearning.com explaining the issue. The Sapling support team is almost always more able (and faster) to resolve issues than your instructor and TAs.
   • To optimize your Sapling Learning experience, please keep your internet browser and Flash player up to date and minimize the use of RAM-intensive programs/websites while using Sapling Learning.