

**CHM 124: Introduction to Organic Chemistry**  
**Spring 2024 Syllabus, Section 3**

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**Student Hours in Beaupre 117E:**  
posted on Starfish

**Course TA:** Quentin Mylie, [quentin\\_mylie@uri.edu](mailto:quentin_mylie@uri.edu)

**Course Meeting Time:** Section 3, TTh 2:00-3:15pm, Beaupre 100

### Course Description

CHM 124 is a second semester course following an introductory general chemistry class (CHM 101 or CHM 103 at URI). As such, students should come to CHM 124 with a strong background of the material covered in pre-requisite general chemistry courses. This course covers the fundamentals of organic chemistry, basic characteristics of organic compounds and functional groups, including organic acids and bases. We will begin with the basics of what makes an organic molecule, and throughout the semester we cover several basic organic reactions and how they relate to the biological world. This course is designed to not only advance students' scientific knowledge, but also increase their competency in the critical thinking skills identified as essential to success in various programs of study.

### Learning Objectives

- Apply your understanding of the chemical principles associated with the basics of organic molecules by demonstrating how bonds are formed and broken in these compounds.
- Differentiate organic acids and bases and all measurements related to the strength of their acidity and basicity according to their pH and pKa values.
- Differentiate between factors that affect chemical processes and their outcomes.
- Predict starting compounds or final products of reactions.
- Predict chemical reactions in biological processes.

### Learning Materials (including textbook and technology requirements)

- Recommended textbook: Chemistry for Today, 9e, Seager and Slabaugh (any recent edition is suitable)
- Online Homework (**required**): OWLv2 access for Seager/Slabaugh 9e
- Extra study aid: CHM 124 Skills Book, available on Brightspace as PDF files
- Technology requirements: To successfully complete this course, you will need reliable internet access from a machine capable of supporting Brightspace. You should also have access to Microsoft Office and Adobe products through your URI SSO portal. Typical tech requirements for computers are:

Windows 7 or newer	Mac OS X or newer
64 MB ram	32 MB ram
28.8 kbps modem (56k or higher recommended)	28.8 kbps modem (56k or higher recommended)
SoundCard and speakers	SoundCard and speakers
External headphones with built-in microphone	External headphones with built-in microphone
Firefox 9.0 or higher	Firefox 9.0 or higher, Safari 5.0 or higher

### Course Grading Policy

The course grade will be based upon the following:

Exams (4 exams at 15% each)	60%
OWL Homework Assignments	12%
Quizzes	12%
Cumulative Final Exam	16%
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Total	100%

This course grade is ***strictly*** based on the grades achieved on these assessments, and ***no extra credit will be provided***. There will be 4 in-class, written exams, each worth 15% of the overall course grade, and a mandatory, cumulative final exam.

The grade for the final exam may replace the grade of 1 of the 4 lecture exams that is missed or is lower scoring than the final exam. This policy is designed to assist students who miss an exam due to injury, illness, or family needs. Students can take some time to focus on their needs without the additional stress of arranging and preparing for a proctored make-up exam at a time when the course will have moved on to other topics. *This policy for a missed exam applies to any student that is absent for an exam for any reason.*

Students should expect the standard grading scale to be applied, as follows:

90%+ = A- / A; 80-89% = B- / B / B+; 70-79% = C- / C / C+; 60-69% = D / D+; < 60% = F

Remember, you need a C- to move forward to other courses within the Chemistry department.

Grades in CHM 124 are earned demonstrating mastery/proficiency in the required skills. These skills include *critical thinking* and *problem solving*: the ability to apply organic chemistry concepts to relevant scenarios and to predict physical and chemical properties from a study of a compound's molecular structure.

Each grade is determined by the quality of the student's performance on the course work items described in detail below. The grade is ***not*** open to negotiation and is ***not*** dictated by what is needed to progress in the student's chosen program of study. The grade must be ***earned*** by achieving proficiency in (and ideally, mastery of) the skills identified as essential to ongoing success in the student's degree program.

The most successful students in CHM124 are those who consistently prepare to come to class, participate fully in each class meeting, and diligently practice problems – thus becoming efficient, competent, and confident in analyzing and solving organic chemistry problems *independently*.

### Course Work Items

#### ***Exam Format and Rules***

Exams in this course will *typically* be a mixture of short answer and multiple choice, though they can also be either completely short answer or multiple choice. They are closed book and closed note. Each exam may require knowledge from previous chapters, so all exams should be considered cumulative.

You will be assigned a seat in Beaupre 100 for all exams. If you do not sit in your assigned seat, you will receive a zero for the exam. On exam days, please wait outside the classroom until allowed in. You should bring an ink pen and your URI ID to each exam. Your URI ID will be checked as you submit your exam to ensure the correct student is taking the exam. You may not have any electronic device with you while taking exams – including

phones, wireless headphones, smart watches, or any other devices that have internet capability. If you are found with any of these devices during an exam, or found with unauthorized notes or papers, you will get a non-negotiable grade of zero for the exam.

All exam dates may be found on the schedule at the end of this course syllabus. If the University is closed on a scheduled exam day, the exam will be given during the next class session.

Any errors in grading must be brought to my attention in writing within 48 hours of the graded material being made available to the class. After 48 hours, **no changes in exam grades will be made**. Any requests for regrading will subject the entire exam to be regraded. Exams must be solely written in ink to qualify for regrading; if there is any pencil, it will not be considered.

Alternative testing arrangements for students with DAI accommodations, those serving in the military, students participating in university-sanctioned events, or those observing religious holidays require written documentation and should be made at least one full week prior to the scheduled exams.

### ***OWL v2 Homework Assignments***

Homework will be assigned through OWLv2, the online platform produced by our textbook's publisher. You have 10 attempts for every question on every assignment, so use this as an opportunity to learn and answer all the prompts right. These assignments are meant to be low-stress opportunities for practice and learning, and may cover material we do not discuss in depth during class time. Please do not leave these assignments until the last day or two before they are due, otherwise you may not complete them in time.

### ***Quizzes***

There are expected to be roughly 3-10 quizzes administered periodically throughout the semester, including a syllabus quiz and a pre-requisite quiz administered within the first two weeks of class. These will be a mixture of online and in-class quizzes. Any quizzes administered during class time will be announced at least one class period prior. These quizzes are designed to be a low-stress checkup on the concepts discussed in class, and they are meant to be extra opportunities to work on problems. You can use any course resources available and can discuss with peers the problems assigned. These activities occur during class time, and thus attendance during class is expected. Unexpected issues do arise, so you can miss one quiz without penalty. Students should not ask about quiz make-ups. Answers for quizzes are discussed during the next class meeting, and will be posted to Brightspace afterwards. If multiple quizzes are missed, I may ask for documentation to be able to accommodate further.

### ***Incomplete Policy***

Incomplete grades cannot be assigned except in the case of a real emergency. Any grade of Incomplete must be approved by the department chair and the dean. To receive an Incomplete, a student's coursework must have been passing and the student must have completed at least half of the coursework for the semester. Students receiving a grade of Incomplete should make the necessary arrangements with the instructor to complete the remaining work prior to the following mid-semester. If an Incomplete is not made up prior to the two-year grade change deadline established by the University, the Incomplete will be replaced with a standard letter grade calculated for the student based on the work completed and including zeroes for any work not completed.

### **Late Submission Policy**

There is none! Due dates and deadlines are strict in CHM 124. Please adhere to the posted deadlines for assignments and exams. An extension may be provided because of a university-sanctioned reason for homework assignments. Please do not wait until the last minute possible – challenges may arise and cause issues which may lead to missed assignments.

### **Academic Integrity**

Students are expected to be honest in all academic work. A student's name on any written work, exam, or quiz is regarded as assurance that the work is the result of the student's own effort, thought, and study. The university policy on academic integrity is strictly enforced. Any evidence of academic dishonesty, as defined by the policies outlined in the URI Student Handbook, will result in any of the following: a score of zero for the assessment in question, a failing grade in the course, and/or formal notification to the Dean of Students.

The following are some examples of academic dishonesty:

- Using material, directly or paraphrasing, from published or web sources without appropriate citation. This includes using AI generators, such as ChatGPT or similar.
- Claiming disproportionate credit for collaborative work.
- Unauthorized possession of or access to exams.
- Unauthorized communication during exams.
- Unauthorized use of another's work or preparing work for other students.
- Taking an exam for another student.
- Altering or attempting to alter grades.
- The use of notes or electronic devices to gain an unauthorized advantage during exams.
- Facilitation or aiding of another's academic dishonesty.

### **How to Succeed in CHM 124**

#### ***Chemistry Teaching Assistant Help Office, Beaupre 115***

The Chemistry Help Office is a place where students can gather to study and work problems, either alone or in small groups, and get help on an as-needed basis by Teaching Professors and Graduate TAs that staff the office regularly throughout the week. A complete schedule of TA office hours is available via a link on Brightspace. TAs listed as teaching CHM 126, CHM 226, or CHM 292 will be most familiar with content in CHM 124.

#### ***Assistance from Prof. Pantano, during student hours or via email***

View Starfish for my most up-to-date schedule. You are always welcome to schedule an appointment with me or drop in when you notice I am available. All email communication (including Brightspace announcements) will be through your URI email, so be sure to regularly check it. Please be aware that I receive a substantial number of emails daily. To ensure any of your emails will be seen and answered, please adhere to the following:

- Put the course number and section number (CHM124-03) in the subject line.
- Be concise and descriptive in the subject line.
- Ensure clarity in your message. If I cannot interpret your message, I will not address it.

Any emails received after 5pm may not be reviewed until the next business day, and generally addressed within 48 hours. A response may be in the form of a direct email or an announcement on Brightspace.

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### ***Recitation Sessions with Quentin Mylie***

Our lecture TA, Quentin, will hold frequent recitation sessions to offer extra assistance. This information will be posted on Brightspace.

### **Important Spring 2024 Semester Deadlines**

Last day of e-Campus open add period: Sunday, January 28

Last day of e-Campus add with permission number: Sunday, February 4

Last day for students to drop courses via e-Campus with no transcript designation: Monday, February 12

Last day for students to drop courses via e-Campus with drop (W) designation: Monday, March 4

Mid-term progress reports posted in e-Campus: Tuesday, March 19

### **Viral Illness Precautions Statement**

The University is committed to delivering its educational mission while protecting the health and safety of our community. Students who are experiencing symptoms of viral illness should NOT go to class/work. Those who test positive for COVID-19 should follow the [isolation guidelines](#) from the Rhode Island Department of Health and CDC.

If you are unable to attend an exam due to illness, please notify me prior to the exam at [jpantano@uri.edu](mailto:jpantano@uri.edu). If you are ill, please focus on your rest and recovery.

### **Excused Absences**

Absences due to serious illness or traumatic loss, religious observances, or participation in a university sanctioned event are considered excused absences. Students are responsible for work missed during an excused absence but will not be penalized by grading or assignment/exam make-up policies. Students should notify faculty in advance of absences due to religious observance or university-sanction events, and as soon as possible for other absences See [University Manual sections 8.51.11-8.51.14](#) for details.

### **Anti-Bias Syllabus Statement**

We respect the rights and dignity of each individual and group. We reject prejudice and intolerance, and we work to understand differences. We believe that equity and inclusion are critical components for campus community members to thrive. If you are a target or a witness of a bias incident, you are encouraged to submit a report to the URI Bias Response Team at [www.uri.edu/brt](http://www.uri.edu/brt). There, you will also find people and resources to help.

### **Land Acknowledgement**

The University of Rhode Island occupies the traditional stomping ground of the Narragansett Nation and the Niantic People. We honor and respect the enduring and continuing relationship between the Indigenous people and this land by teaching and learning more about their history and present-day communities, and by becoming stewards of the land we, too, inhabit.

### **Student Resources**

#### ***Academic Enhancement Center***

The Academic Enhancement Center (AEC) offers face-to-face and online services to undergraduate students seeking academic support beginning xxxx. Services are based out of Roosevelt Hall, the Carothers Library room LL004, and online. Peer tutoring is available for STEM & BUS-related courses through the Drop-In Center and

small-group tutoring. The Writing Center peer consultants offer feedback focused on supporting undergraduate writers at any stage of a writing assignment. The UCS 160 course and one-to-one Academic Skills Consultations offer strategies for improving studying and test-taking skills. Complete details about each of these programs, up-to-date schedules, contact information, and self-service study resources are all available on the AEC website, [uri.edu/aec](http://uri.edu/aec).

- [STEM & BUS Tutoring](#) helps undergraduate students navigate a variety of 100 and 200 level STEM & BUS courses through free peer tutoring in-person and online. Students can select **occasional or weekly tutoring sessions** through the TracCloud system or visit the Drop-In Center, located in the Carothers Library lower level room LL004. The TracCloud application is available through [URI Microsoft 365](#) single sign-on and more detailed information and instructions can be found at [uri.edu/aec/tutoring](http://uri.edu/aec/tutoring).
- [Academic Skills Development](#) programs teach students to develop and apply metacognitive thinking strategies to improve their time management, problem solving and study skills. **UCS 160: Success in Higher Education** is a 1-credit course on planning and managing work and studying in college. **UCS 161: Becoming a Self Directed Student** teaches strategies for identifying and overcoming challenges in academic work and life. **Academic Consultations** are 1 to 1 in-person or online consultations that help students to directly address individual academic challenges. Students can schedule sessions with [Peer Academic Consultants on TracCloud](#) or with [Dr. David Hayes on Starfish](#). Finally, [Study Your Way to Success](#) is a self-guided web portal connecting students to tips and strategies on studying and time management related topics. For information or help with scheduling, contact Dr. Hayes directly at [davidhayes@uri.edu](mailto:davidhayes@uri.edu).
- [The Undergraduate Writing Center](#) provides peer writing support to students in any class, at any stage of writing: from understanding an assignment and brainstorming ideas, to developing, organizing, and revising a draft. Writing consultations are available through: 1) 25- or 50-minute **in-person appointments**, 2) synchronous **online appointments**, and 3) asynchronous **written feedback**. Students can view availability and book online through [URI Microsoft 365](#) single sign-on via the WOnline (Undergrad) app. For more information, visit [uri.edu/aec/writing](http://uri.edu/aec/writing).

### ***Disability, Access, and Inclusion Services***

Your access to this course is important. Please send me your Disability, Access and Inclusion (DAI) accommodation letter early in the semester so we have adequate time to discuss and arrange your approved academic accommodations. If you have not yet established services through DAI, please contact them to engage in a confidential conversation about the process for requesting reasonable accommodations in the classroom. DAI can be reached by: calling (401)874-2098; visiting [web.uri.edu/disability](http://web.uri.edu/disability); or emailing [dai@etal.uri.edu](mailto:dai@etal.uri.edu). We are available to meet with students enrolled in courses at both the Kingston and Providence campuses.

### ***Basic Needs Resources***

Food insecurity affects up to 30% of college students. That means you might not have enough food to get through a day or week, you don't have money to purchase groceries or personal products, or you are primarily eating foods that don't provide a lot of nutrition because they're all you can afford. This can all impact your academic success.

[Rhody Outpost](#) provides URI students who are food insecure with emergency food services and resources. The Outpost is housed at the Dining Services Warehouse at [10 Tootell Road](#), between Flagg Road and West Alumni

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Avenue. We are open every Friday from 3-5:30. Any student in need is welcome to visit the Outpost after filling out a brief [request form](#).

If you have questions about food or housing insecurity, contact Barbara Sweeney, Coordinator of Food Security Outreach, at [barbara\\_sweeney@uri.edu](mailto:barbara_sweeney@uri.edu), or 401-874-5633. We want to help all students succeed and make URI a place with #NoRamHungry.

### ***Mental Health and Wellness***

We understand that college comes with challenges and stress associated with your courses, job/family responsibilities and personal life. URI offers students a range of services to support your [mental health and wellbeing](#), including the [URI Counseling Center](#), [MySSP](#) (Student Support Program) App, the [Wellness Resource Center](#), and [Well-being Coaching](#).

### ***Center for Career and Experiential Education:***

The [Center for Career and Experiential Education](#) (CCEE) supports undergraduate students with career preparation through [one-on-one advising](#), [24-7 online resources](#), [career education courses](#), and [career events](#) that prepare you for life after graduation and connect you with employers and community partners. Your [Career Education Specialist](#) (CES) is available to meet with you all year long, as early as your first-year, both in-person and virtually, to assist with exploring your career options, resume and cover letter writing, interview preparation, job and internship search, and more. We use [Handshake](#) to connect you to on and off campus jobs and internships and [RhodyServes](#) to connect you with volunteer opportunities in RI. Our team on the first floor of Roosevelt Hall can help you learn how to use Handshake effectively to find amazing opportunities. For more information or to meet with a CES, go to [uri.edu/career](http://uri.edu/career).

## Tentative Schedule with Exam Dates\*

Week	Tuesday	Thursday	HW Due Dates
1	1/23 Syllabus, Ch. 4	1/25 Ch. 11	HW 1 due Sunday 1/28 at 11:55 pm
2	1/30 Ch. 11	2/1 Ch. 11	HW 2 due Sunday 2/4 at 11:55 pm
3	2/6 Ch. 12	2/8 Ch. 12	
4	2/13 Ch. 12	2/15 <b>EXAM 1</b>	HW 3 due Sunday 2/18 at 11:55 pm
5	2/20 Ch. 13	2/22 Ch. 13	
6	2/27 Ch. 14	2/29 Ch. 14	HW 4 due Sunday 3/3 at 11:55 pm
7	3/5 <b>EXAM 2</b>	3/7 Ch. 15	HW 5 due Sunday 3/10 at 11:55 pm
8	3/12 <b>Spring Break</b>	3/14 <b>Spring Break</b>	
9	3/19 Ch. 15	3/21 Ch. 16	HW 6 due Sunday 3/24 at 11:55 pm
10	3/26 Ch. 16	3/28 Chirality	HW 7 due Sunday 3/31 at 11:55 pm
11	4/2 Chirality	4/4 <b>EXAM 3</b>	HW 8A due Sunday 4/7 at 11:55 pm
12	4/9 Ch. 17	4/11 Ch. 17	
13	4/16 Ch. 18	4/18 Ch. 19	HW 8B due Friday 4/19 at 11:55 pm
14	4/23 <b>EXAM 4</b>	4/25 Review	HW 9 due Tuesday 4/23 at 11:55 pm
15	4/30 <b>Reading Day</b>	5/2 <b>Final Exam</b>	HW 10 due Monday 4/29 at 11:55 pm

**Exam 1: Ch 4, 11, 12**

**Exam 2: Ch 13, 14**

**Exam 3: Ch 15, 16, chirality**

**Exam 4: Ch 17-19**

**Final Exam (CUMULATIVE): Thursday, May 2, 3:00-5:00pm, Beaupre 100**

\*This schedule and syllabus are subject to change by the instructor at any time.\*