

## Chemistry: *Fall 2025 Course Syllabus*

**NJIT Academic Integrity Code:** All Students should be aware that the Department of Chemistry & Environmental Science (CES) takes the University Code on Academic Integrity at NJIT very seriously and enforces it strictly. This means that there must not be any forms of plagiarism, i.e., copying of homework, class projects, or lab assignments, or any form of cheating in quizzes and exams. Under the University Code on Academic Integrity, students are obligated to report any such activities to the Instructor.

### COURSE INFORMATION

**Course Description:** This course offers students the opportunity to learn the nature of carbon in organic compounds. Systematic study of the theories, principles and applications of Organic Chemistry. This course covers topics such as bonding theories and structure, conformations and stereochemistry, and functional groups like alkanes, alkenes, and alkynes. This course will also cover topics such as spectroscopy and mass spectrometry. It presents general principles of organic chemistry related to nomenclature, structure, stereochemistry, uses and synthesis.

**Number of Credits:** 3

**Prerequisites:** General Chemistry. CHEM 122 or CHEM 126 with a grade of C or better.

#### Course-Section and Instructors

Course-Section	Instructor
CHEM 243-101	Yuanwei Zhang

**Class Schedule:** Fridays 6:00 - 8:50 PM  
KUPF 210

**Office Hours:** Fridays, 2:00 - 3:30 pm (TIER 353)

#### Required Textbook:

<b>Title</b>	Organic Chemistry A Tenth Edition
<b>Author</b>	John McMurry
<b>Edition</b>	10 <sup>th</sup> edition
<b>Publisher</b>	OpenStax
<b>ISBN #</b>	978-1-951693-98-5

- Aktiv Learning subscription: The Aktiv learning app (<https://account.aktiv.com>), which can be accessed from a mobile device or computer, will be used for homework and graded quizzes. A subscription fee for the semester is required to access the material. You need to pair the app with the course in order to sync your grades. The code to access the course and the guideline to pair it can be found on the Canvas page.
- Molecular model kit: This is highly suggested, but will not be allowed during exams.

**University-wide Withdrawal Date:** The last day to withdraw with a **W** is November 10, 2025. It will be strictly enforced.

**Learning Outcomes:**

1. Identify sigma and pi bonds and explain the hybridization of the molecules
2. Discuss electronegativity and bond polarity
3. Draw Lewis structures, condensed structures and structural formulas of organic compounds
4. Use VSEPR to predict the geometry and polarity of molecules
5. Discuss resonance and delocalization of charge in molecules
6. Identify various functional groups in organic molecules, particularly alkenes, alkynes, alcohols, acids, ethers, esters, aldehydes, ketones and amines
7. Explain Lewis acid-base theory
8. Explain rules of nomenclature to describe the various hydrocarbons
9. Describe structural and geometric isomerism and the role of isomerism in determining molecule structure
10. Describe types of intermolecular forces
11. Apply knowledge of intermolecular forces to describe trends in boiling points and melting points of various molecules
12. Distinguish between conformers and isomers
13. Describe key reactions of alkanes (substitution), alkenes and alkynes (addition)
14. Identify chair and boat conformations of cyclohexane and predict the stability of the different conformers
15. Recognize the steps involved in free radical reactions
16. Identify and describe the reactivity of various intermediates produced during reactions of hydrocarbons
17. Propose reaction mechanisms to describe product formation in simple alkane substitution reactions
18. Describe chirality and distinguish between R and S stereoisomers and diastereoisomers
19. Discuss and draw the products of substitution and elimination reactions of alkyl electrophiles
20. Describe substitution reactions and recognize SN1 and SN2 reactions
21. Explain E1 and E2 reactions
22. Describe various types of addition reactions in aliphatic alkenes and alkynes
23. Use infrared spectroscopy, nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy, ultraviolet spectroscopy, and mass spectrometry to determine the structure of organic molecules
24. Predict the expected signals in IR, NMR, UV and MS from given functional groups

## **POLICIES**

**All CES students must familiarize themselves with, and adhere to, all official university-wide student policies. CES takes these policies very seriously and enforces them strictly.**

**Grading Policy:** For each chapter, a set of homework questions will be posted on the Aktiv learning app. Completing the homework before the due date will provide full credit, regardless of the score. The Aktiv learning homework will be worth 50 points. Additional practice problems will be provided on Canvas. These will not be collected or graded, but serve as great practice for the exams. In addition, there will be five graded quizzes throughout the semester, also in Aktiv learning. These can be completed within a period pre-determined by the instructor. In total, quizzes will be worth 50 points. There will be two exams, one midterm and one final, each covering about 5-6 chapters. Each exam will worth 100 points. Makeup homework is not allowed and makeup exam is not encouraged. If you must miss an exam contact the coordinator before the exam or immediately after. Makeup should be taken within the first week of the exam and before exams are given back. You must have a valid excuse and a doctor note. The final grade in this course will be determined as follows:

<b>Aktiv Learning Homework</b>	50
<b>Aktiv Learning Quizzes</b>	50
<b>Midterm Exam</b>	100
<b>Final Exam</b>	100

Your final letter grade in this course will be based on the following tentative curve:

A	90-100	C	70-74.9
B+	85-89.9	D	60-70
B	80-84.9	F	< 60
C+	75-79.9		

**Attendance Policy:** Each class is a learning experience that cannot be replicated through simply “getting the notes”. Notes will be accessible on Canvas prior to beginning each new chapter. However, they are templates and will be expanded during lectures. Therefore, only attendance will provide you with the full notes, worked problems and announcements regarding covered material.

**Homework Policy:** Homework is an expectation of the course. The homework problems set by the instructor are to be handed in for grading and will be used in the determination of the final letter grade as described above.

**Exams:** There will be one midterm exam held in class during the semester and one final exam. The following exam periods are tentative and therefore possibly subject to change:

Midterm Exam	October 31
Final Exam Period	December 15 - December 21

The final exam will test your knowledge of all the course material taught in the entire course.

**Makeup Exam Policy:** There will normally be **NO MAKE-UP QUIZZES OR EXAMS** during the semester. In the event that a student has a legitimate reason for missing a quiz or exam, the student should contact the Dean of Students office and present written verifiable proof of the reason for missing the exam, e.g., a doctor’s note, police report, court notice, etc. clearly stating the date AND time of the mitigating problem. The student must also notify the CES Department Office/Instructor that the exam will be missed so that appropriate steps can be taken to make up the grade.

**Cellular Phones:** All cellular phones and other electronic devices must be switched off during all class times. Such devices must be stowed in bags during exams or quizzes.

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

**Chemistry Tutoring Center:** Located in the Central King Building, Lower Level, Rm. G12. Hours of operation are Monday - Friday 10:00 am - 6:00 pm. For further information please click [here](#).

**Accommodation of Disabilities:** Office of Accessibility Resources and Services (*formerly known as Disability Support Services*) offers long term and temporary accommodations for undergraduate, graduate and visiting students at NJIT.

If you are in need of accommodations due to a disability please contact Chantonette Lyles, Associate Director at the Office of Accessibility Resources and Services at 973-596-5417 or via email at [lyles@njit.edu](mailto:lyles@njit.edu). The office is located in Fenster Hall Room 260. A Letter of Accommodation Eligibility from the Office of Accessibility Resources Services office authorizing your accommodations will be required.

For further information regarding self-identification, the submission of medical documentation and additional support services provided please visit the Accessibility Resources and Services (OARS) website at:

- <http://www5.njit.edu/studentssuccess/disability-support-services/>

**Important Dates** See: Fall 2025 Academic Calendar, Registrar  
<https://www5.njit.edu/registrar/fall-2025-academic-calendar/>

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## Course Outline

Lecture	Section	Topic	Assignment
1	1	Introduction and Review	
2	2	Structure and Properties of Organic Molecules	
3	3	Structure and Stereochemistry of Alkanes	Quiz 1
4	4	The Study of Chemical Reactions	
5	5	Stereochemistry	Quiz 2
6	5,6	Stereochemistry & Alkyl Halide	
7	6	Alkyl Halide, Nucleophilic Substitution and Elimination	
8	7	Structure and Synthesis of Alkenes	Quiz 3
9		Midterm Exam (chapters 1-5)	
10	8	Reactions of Alkenes	
11	9	Infrared Spectroscopy and Mass Spectrometry	Quiz 4
12	9,10	Mass Spectrometry and NMR	
13	10	Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy	
14	11	Alkynes	Quiz 5
15		Final exam (Chapters 6-11)	

*Department of Chemistry & Environmental Sciences (CES)  
Course Syllabus, Fall 2025*

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