



College of Arts & Sciences

Organic Chemistry II Lab- CHEM 2125-04L Syllabus

Instructor: Dr. Samantha Zepeda

Email: samantha.zepeda@tamusa.edu

Class Hours: Th 3:00 pm -5:45pm

Class Location: STEM, Room# 327

Office: HALL, Room# 334

Office hours: Mon, Tue, Fri 12:00 – 2:00 pm

Instructional Method: Face-to-Face

Wen 9:30-10:30 am & by appointment

Communication Policy: University Policy states that all communication between students and faculty occur through university provided email. As such, any questions or concerns should be sent to my university email samantha.zepeda@tamusa.edu. Communications will be returned within 2 business days.

Course Description:

Organic chemistry laboratory experiments designed to accompany [CHEM 2325](#). Introduction to laboratory practices and procedures with emphasis on syntheses and spectroscopy.

Prerequisites: [CHEM 2323](#) and [CHEM 2123](#). **Corequisites:** [CHEM 2325](#).

Course Goals:

The laboratory portion of the organic chemistry experience demonstrates how organic chemical knowledge is acquired through experimentation. Laboratory skills and techniques are important, as are the skills of asking questions that can be formulated into chemical experiments and then answering them by the analysis of experimental data. Working in teams can be useful in the laboratory learning environment and mirrors the team-oriented problem solving that occurs in professional laboratories.

Course Materials: Lab coats, approved safety goggles, a notebook to record observations during experiments, a pen (blue or black ink) are required to be used during each class.

Laboratory Handouts: All required handouts will be provided on your blackboard. The completed laboratory reports in PDF format are due as stated in the attached schedule unless otherwise stated in Blackboard. **All students must submit individual reports for grading.** Discussion of assignments, and conceptual basis of labs/data/data analysis is allowed. Sharing of written reports with past, present or future students is **not allowed**.

Proper attire for lab:

- A) Closed-toe shoes that covers your foot in its entirety.
- B) The following list is NOT appropriate lab attire:
Shorts, skirts, mid-riff shirts. tank tops. $\frac{3}{4}$ length pants. pants with large holes.
- C) Lab coats
- D) Approved safety goggles

THIS POLICY WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED AND STUDENT IN NONCOMPLIANCE WILL BE DISMISSED FROM THE LABORATORY AND WILL RECEIVE NO CREDIT FOR THAT WEEK'S EXPERIMENT. We take YOUR safety in the laboratory very seriously and we expect the same from you.

Goggles and lab coat **MUST** be worn properly in the laboratory **AT ALL TIMES. NO EXCEPTIONS!** Without goggle and lab coat, you will not be allowed to perform any lab activities and will receive no credit for the experiment.

Learning Objectives: By the end of this course students will be able to:

- Develop a feel for the logic of organic experimental procedures: the logic of glassware design, selecting the optimum equipment for a particular reaction or operation, why particular solvents and reaction conditions are used for a specific transformation planning and carrying out a variety of organic reactions, including safety considerations
- Keep a laboratory notebook as a record of what is done and when it was completed
- Monitor the process of a reaction
- Isolate and purify chemical products
- Spectroscopic analysis of starting materials and products; deducing structures by interpretation of modern spectroscopic and computational data, and its use to answer the formulated hypothesis
- Analysis of experimental data using statistical analysis
- Understand the value and limitations of computational methods

Attendance Policy: All students are expected to attend all laboratories and be fully and actively engaged in lab activities. Attendance will be monitored. Absences will be excused if due to illness (medical excuse), death of a close family member, religious holiday (please inform instructor), official university activity, cancellation of classes/closure of the University, military duties, pregnancy & related conditions, or participation in legal proceedings. **Only one laboratory will be excused for the above reasons upon receipt of supporting document.**

Be prompt: Punctuality is essential to maintaining a safe and efficient laboratory environment. Timely arrival ensures that you are present for important safety instructions and lab procedures. A point from your experiment grade will be deducted for every minute you are late, up to 10 minutes. After 10 minutes, you will not be allowed to perform the experiment. If a student arrives more than 10 minutes late, they will not be permitted to participate in the lab for that day. This will result in a grade of "0" for that week's lab assignment.

Be prepared: Lab safety is a top priority for the laboratory. You cannot be safe in lab if you come unprepared. As such you must read, review, and understand the laboratory procedures before you set foot in the lab. If your failure to prepare for the lab results in repeated safety issues for you or your lab partners, you may be asked to leave the lab and will receive a zero for the day's work. You will receive up to 1 safety warning per lab prior to being asked to leave.

Late Work Policy: Reports should be submitted on time. Late submitted pre-lab report will not be graded. For post-lab report, 25% will be deducted for every day late up to 3 days, and assignments will not be graded after 3 days of the due date.

Lab Partners: Students will work in groups of two unless directed otherwise by the instructor. Partners will be assigned by instructor and rotate throughout the semester.

Visitors: Only students enrolled in the course are allowed in the classroom. No visitors are allowed.

Conduct and Behavior: My goal is to create a safe and engaging learning environment. Class disruptions are unacceptable, asking questions to clarify material during class does not qualify as a disruption and is encouraged. If you disrupt the class, you will be asked to leave for the day. Technology in the classroom may be a great resource, but it can also hinder the learning process and in a lab represent a major safety concern. Therefore, **students are not allowed to wear ear buds and headphones and/or use cellphones during class.** All cellphones must be on vibration mode or turned off for the entirety of the class/lab period. In case of an emergency call, leave the room before answering the call. Texting during class is absolutely prohibited. The use of laptops, tablets or other devices for non-class related activities is not allowed. Laptop and tablet usage is not allowed at the fume hoods, notetaking must occur in your laboratory notebook.

Aggressive Behavior: The academic environment is meant for discussing ideas in a respectful manner. Tolerance, empathy, respect, and courtesy help us create a safe environment. Abusive and aggressive behavior will result in contacting the University Police Department and immediate removal of the student from the classroom.

AI policy: This class, CHEM 2025, assumes that all work submitted by students will be generated by the students themselves, working individually or in groups. Students should not have another person/entity do the writing of any portion of an assignment for them, which includes using past or present student's work, hiring a person or a company to write assignments and/or using artificial intelligence (AI) tools like ChatGPT. Use of any AI-generated content in this course qualifies as academic dishonesty and violates Texas A&M-San Antonio's standards of academic integrity.

Academic Calendar: The complete academic calendar and final exam schedule are available online at the [University calendar website](#). Please be familiar with important dates.

Grading:

Your grade for the course will be assigned based on your performance on special topics presentation and lab reports. These are the only opportunities for you to earn points throughout the semester. There will be **no** opportunities for extra credit.

Lab Notebook Checks: 2 x 50 points each	100 points
Reports: 6 x 100 points each	600 points
Special topics presentation	100 points

Total	800 points
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To calculate your grade, use the following equation:

$$\frac{\sum(\text{Points earned})}{\text{Points Available}} * 100$$

Grade Cutoffs

Letter Grade:	A	B	C	D	F
% of Total Points:	90.0 - 100%	80.0 - 89.9%	70.0 - 79.9%	60.0 - 69.9%	0 - 59.9%

Tentative Schedule

Week#	Day	Experiment	What is due?
1	August 27	No Lab	
2	September 3	Check-in/Syllabus/Lab Safety/ Spectroscopy Assignment	Signed safety form
3	September 10	<i>Alkenes from Alcohols</i>	<i>Alkenes from Alcohols</i> pre-lab
4	September 17	<i>Alkenes from Alcohols</i> cont.	
5	September 24	No Lab	<i>Alkenes from Alcohols</i> post-lab
6	October 1	<i>S_N2 Reaction</i>	<i>S_N2 Reaction</i> pre-lab
7	October 8	<i>S_N2 Reaction</i> cont.	
8	October 15	<i>Diels-Alder Reaction</i>	<i>Diels-Alder Reaction</i> pre-lab <i>S_N2 Reaction</i> post-lab
9	October 22	<i>Nitration Reaction</i>	Nitration pre-lab Diels-Alder Reaction post-lab
10	October 29	<i>Grignard Synthesis</i>	<i>Grignard Synthesis</i> pre-lab Nitration post-lab
11	November 5	<i>Grignard Synthesis</i>	<i>Spartan</i> Topic
12	November 12	<i>Grignard Synthesis</i>	
13	November 19	<i>Spartan Calculations</i>	<i>Grignard Synthesis</i> post-lab
14	November 26	No lab	<i>Spartan</i> Formal Lab Report
15	December 3	<i>Special Topics Presentations</i>	Special project PowerPoint presentations must be uploaded through the blackboard prior to the presentation
16	December 10	No lab	

*Dates, topics and exam coverage are tentative. The instructor reserves the right to make changes as deemed necessary. Please check course announcement on your blackboard for actual schedule and due dates.

IMPORTANT POLICIES AND RESOURCES

University Email Policy and Course Communications: All correspondence between professors and students must occur via university email accounts. You must have your Jaguar email account ready and working. If it is not working, contact the help desk at helpdesk@tamusa.edu or at 210-784-HELP (4357). If you don't hear back within 48 hours, contact them again. They have many requests during the first part of the semester, so you may need to follow up with them.

Academic Accommodations for Individuals with Disabilities: Texas A&M University-San Antonio is committed to providing all students with reasonable access to learning opportunities and accommodations in accordance with The Americans with Disabilities Act, as amended, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. If you experience barriers to your education due to a disability or think you may have a disability, Disability Support Services is located in the Central Academic Building, Suite 210. You can also contact us via phone at (210) 784-1335, visit us at the [website](#) or email us at dss@tamusa.edu. All students are encouraged to discuss their academic accommodation with Disability Support Services and their instructors as soon as possible.

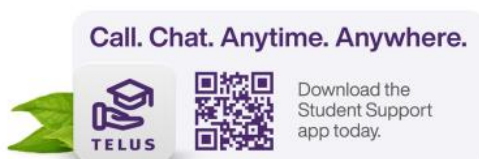
Academic Learning Center: All currently enrolled students at Texas A&M University-San Antonio can utilize the Academic Learning Center for subject-area tutoring. The Academic Learning Center provides free course-based tutoring to all currently enrolled students at Texas A&M University-San Antonio. Students wishing to work with a tutor can make appointments through the Brainfuse online tutoring platform. Brainfuse can be accessed in the *Tools* section of Blackboard. You can contact the Academic Learning Center by emailing tutoring@tamusa.edu, calling (210) 784-1307, or visiting the Central Academic Building, room 202. Online tutoring is also available for after hours and weekend assistance. While tutoring hours may change based on tutor schedules and availability, the current tutoring hours for MATH in the ALC are as follows:

Appointments available MATH Walk in Tutoring – No appointment needed		
	Appointments available	Walk in Tutoring – No appointment needed
MONDAY	8 am – 6 pm	9 am – 5 pm
TUESDAY	8 am – 6 pm	9 am – 5 pm
WEDNESDAY	8 am – 6 pm	9 am – 5 pm
THURSDAY	8 am – 6 pm	9 am – 5 pm
FRIDAY	8 am – 5 pm	11 am – 4 pm

Counseling/Mental Health Resources: As a college student, there may be times when personal stressors interfere with your academic performance and negatively impact your daily functioning. If you are experiencing emotional difficulties or mental health concerns, support is available to you through the Student Counseling Center (SCC). To schedule an appointment, visit our website, call 210-784-1331 or visit Madla 120 between the hours of 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM.

All mental health services provided by the SCC are free and confidential (as the law allows). The Student Counseling Center provides brief individual and group therapy, crisis intervention, consultation, case management, and prevention services. *Crisis support is available 24/7/365 by calling the SCC at 210-784-1331 or through the TELUS student support App.*

The TELUS Student Support App provides a variety of mental health resources to including 24/7/365 support for in the moment distress, crisis support, an anonymous peer-to-peer support network, mental health screenings, podcasts, and articles to improve your mental wellbeing.



Emergency Preparedness: JagE Alert is Texas A&M University-San Antonio's mass notification system. In the event of an emergency, such as inclement weather, students, staff and faculty, who are registered, will have the option to receive a text message, email with instructions and updates. To register or update your information visit: <https://tamusa.bbcportal.com/>. More information on emergency response may be found at: [Emergency Operations Plan](#) and the [Emergency Action Plan](#). Download the SafeZone App (<https://safezoneapp.com/>) for emergencies or call (210) 784-1911. Non-Emergency (210) 784-1900.

Financial Aid and Verification of Attendance: According to the following federal regulation, 34 CFR 668.21: U.S. Department of Education (DoE) Title IV regulation, a student can only receive Title IV funds based on Title IV eligibility criteria which include class attendance. If Title IV funds are disbursed to ineligible students (including students who fail to begin attendance), the institution must return these funds to the U.S. DoE within 30 days of becoming aware that the student will not or has not begun attendance. Faculty will provide the Office of Financial Aid with an electronic notification if a student has not attended by the published Census Date (the first week of class). Any student receiving federal financial aid who does not attend prior to the published Census Date (the first week of class) will have their aid terminated and returned to the DoE. Please note that any student who stops attending at any time during the semester may also need to return a portion of their federal aid.

Jaguar Writing, Language, and Digital Composing Center (WLDCC): The WLDCC provides support to graduate and undergraduate students in all three colleges as well as faculty and staff. Writing tutors work with students to develop reading skills, prepare oral presentations, and plan, draft, and revise their written assignments. Our language tutors support students enrolled in Spanish courses and students composing in Spanish for any assignment. Our digital studio tutors support students working on digital projects such as eportfolios, class presentations, or other digital multimedia projects. The WLDCC offers face-to-face, synchronous online, and asynchronous digital appointments. Students can schedule appointments with the WLDCC in JagWire under the Student Services tab. Click on "Writing, Language, and Digital Composing Center" to make your appointment. Students wanting to work in realtime with a tutor can schedule an "Online Appointment." Students wishing to receive asynchronous, written feedback from a tutor can schedule an "eTutoring" appointment. More information about what services we offer, how to make an appointment, and how to access your appointment can be found on our [website](#). The WLDCC can also be reached by emailing wldcc@tamusa.edu.

Meeting Basic Needs: Any student who has difficulty affording groceries or accessing sufficient food to eat every day or who lacks a safe and stable place to live, and believes this may affect their performance in the course, is urged to submit a [CARE report](#) for support. Furthermore, please notify the professor if you

are comfortable in doing so. This will enable them to direct you to available resources. A food pantry is available on campus; click [here](#) for hours and contact information.

Military Affairs: Veterans and active-duty military personnel are welcomed and encouraged to visit the Office of Military Affairs for any question involving federal or state VA Education Benefits. Visit the Patriots' Casa building, room 202, or to contact the Office of Military Affairs with any questions at military.va@tamusa.edu or (210)784-1397.

Religious Observances: Texas A&M University-San Antonio recognizes the wide variety of faiths represented among the campus community and protects the rights of students, faculty, and staff to observe religious holidays according to their tradition. Under the policy, students are provided an opportunity to make up any examination, study, or course work requirements that may be missed due to a religious observance provided they notify their instructors before the end of the second week of classes for regular session classes.

The Six-Drop Rule: Students are subject to the requirements of Senate Bill (SB) 1231 passed by the Texas Legislature in 2007. SB 1231 limits students to a maximum of six (6) non-punitive course drops (i.e., courses a student chooses to drop) during their undergraduate careers. A non-punitive drop does not affect the student's GPA. However, course drops that exceed the maximum allowed by SB 1231 will be treated as "F" grades and will impact the student's GPA.

Statement of Harassment and Discrimination: Texas A&M University-San Antonio is committed to the fundamental principles of academic freedom, equal opportunity, and human dignity. To fulfill its multiple missions as an institution of higher learning, A&M-San Antonio encourages a climate that values and nurtures collegiality and the uniqueness of the individual on our campus and within our state, nation, and world. All decisions and actions involving students and employees are to be based on applicable law and individual merit. Texas A&M University-San Antonio, in accordance with applicable federal and state law, prohibits discrimination, including harassment, on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation, or pregnancy/parenting status. Individuals who believe they have experienced harassment or discrimination prohibited by this statement are encouraged to contact the University's Civil Rights Officer at 210-784-2061 or titleix@tamusa.edu. Texas A&M University-San Antonio faculty are committed to providing a safe learning environment for all students and for the university as a whole. If you have experienced any form of sex discrimination or harassment, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, domestic or dating violence, or stalking based on sex, know that help and support are available. A&M-San Antonio's Title IX Coordinator can support those impacted by such conduct in navigating campus life, accessing health and counseling services, providing academic and housing accommodations, and more. The university strongly encourages all students to report any such incidents to the Title IX Coordinator. Please be aware that all A&M-San Antonio employees (other than those designated as confidential resources such as counselors and trained victim advocates) are required to report information about such discrimination and harassment to the university. This means that if you tell a faculty member about a situation of sexual harassment, sexual violence, or other related sex-based misconduct, the faculty member must share that information with the university's Title IX Coordinator (titleix@tamusa.edu, 210-784-2061, CAB 439K). If you wish to speak to a confidential employee who does not have this reporting requirement, you can contact the Student Counseling Center at (210) 784-1331 or visit them in Madla 120.

Pregnant/Parenting Students: Texas A&M-San Antonio does not require a pregnant or parenting student, solely because of that status or issues related to that status, to (1) take a leave of absence or withdraw from their degree or certificate program; (2) limit the student's studies; (3) participate in an alternative program; (4) change the student's major, degree, or certificate program; or (5) refrain from joining or cease participating in any course, activity, or program at the University. The university will provide such reasonable accommodations to pregnant students as would be provided to a student with a temporary medical condition that are related to the health and safety of the student and the student's unborn child. These could include maintaining a safe distance from substances, areas, and activities known to be hazardous to pregnant individuals and their unborn child; excused absences because of illness or medical appointments; modified due dates for assignments; rescheduled tests/exams; taking a leave of absence; and being provided access to instructional materials and video recordings of lectures for excused absences, if these would be provided to any other student with an excused absence. Pregnant/parenting students are encouraged to contact the Title IX Coordinator with any questions or concerns related to their status (titleix@tamusa.edu; 210-784-2061; CAB 439K).

Texas A&M-San Antonio has also designated the Title IX Coordinator as the liaison officer for current or incoming students who are the parent or guardian of a child younger than 18 years of age. The Title IX Coordinator can provide students with information regarding support services and other resources.

Young Jaguars can support parenting students with daycare if students meet this criteria: (1) must be enrolled in classes at Texas A&M-San Antonio in the current semester, (2) must be Pell eligible or a single parent, (3) child(ren) must be aged 3 to 12-years-old, and (4) child(ren) must be enrolled in Pre-K-3 through 6th grade. Hours of operation is Monday-Thursday 3:30pm-9:00pm. For more information, please contact Young Jaguars at youngjaguars@tamusa.edu or call (210) 784-2636.

Students' Rights and Responsibilities: The following statement of students' rights and responsibilities is intended to reflect the philosophical base upon which University Student Rules are built. This philosophy acknowledges the existence of both rights and responsibilities, which is inherent to an individual not only as a student at Texas A&M University-San Antonio but also as a citizen of this country.

Students' Rights

1. A student shall have the right to participate in a free exchange of ideas, and there shall be no University rule or administrative rule that in any way abridges the rights of freedom of speech, expression, petition and peaceful assembly as set forth in the U.S. Constitution.
2. Each student shall have the right to participate in all areas and activities of the University, free from any form of discrimination, including harassment, on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, religion, sex, disability, age, and pregnancy/parenting or veteran status in accordance with applicable federal and state laws.
3. A student has the right to personal privacy except as otherwise provided by law, and this will be observed by students and University authorities alike.
4. Each student subject to disciplinary action arising from violations of university student rules shall be assured a fundamentally fair process.

Students' Responsibilities

1. A student has the responsibility to respect the rights and property of others, including other students, the faculty, and administration.
2. A student has the responsibility to be fully acquainted with the published University Student Rules found in the Student Handbook, [Student Code of Conduct](#), on our website, and University Catalog, and to comply with them, as well as with federal, state, and local laws.
3. A student has the responsibility to recognize that student actions reflect upon the individuals involved and upon the entire University community.
4. A student has the responsibility to recognize the University's obligation to provide a safe environment for learning.
5. A student has the responsibility to check their university email for any updates or official university notifications.

We expect that students will behave in a manner that is dignified, respectful, and courteous to all people, regardless of sex, ethnic/racial origin, religious background, or disability. Conduct that infringes on the rights of another individual will not be tolerated.

Students are expected to exhibit a high level of honesty and integrity in their pursuit of higher education. Students engaging in an act that violates the standards of academic integrity will find themselves facing academic and/or disciplinary sanctions. Academic misconduct is any act, or attempt, which gives an unfair advantage to the student. Additionally, any behavior specifically prohibited by a faculty member in the course syllabus or class discussion may be considered as academic misconduct. For more information on academic misconduct policies and procedures please review the [Student Code of Conduct](#) or visit the resources available in the [OSRR website](#)

Important Fall 2026 Dates:

Dates	Event
August 20	Tuition & Fee Payments deadline
August 24	First day of class
September 7	Labor Day Holiday – No Classes / University Closed
September 9	Census Date – Students not paid in full or enrolled in a payment plan by 4:59 pm may be dropped for non-payment
October 5 – October 16	Midterm grading period
November 13	Last day to drop with an automatic “W”
November 25	Study Day – No classes
November 26-November 28	Thanksgiving Holiday – No Classes / University Closed
November 30	Last day to drop a course or withdraw from the University
December 4	Last day of classes
December 5 – December 11	Final exams
December 15	Commencement

The complete [academic calendar](#) is available online