Syllabus
Chemistry 551
Advanced Organic Chemistry

Vince Rotello
379 LGRT
rotello@chem.umass.edu

TA: Brian Creran
1315 LGRT
bcreran@chem.umass.edu

Grading will be 60% Hour Exams, 30% Final Exam, 10% assignments/ participation

There will be four one-hour exams, Sept 28, Oct 17, Nov. 7, Dec. 30. Three of the four will be counted; the lowest grade will be dropped. Make up exams will be provided only under the direst of necessity.

The final exam will count for 30% of the grade and will be cumulative; Students with an “A” after the fourth exam will not have to take the Final. Those receiving an “A” will be informed; all others must take exam.

The exams and the final course grade will be graded upon the modal distributions. If you don’t understand this after the first lecture, please ask.

Organic chemistry is about problem solving—we will have tutorial sessions most weeks to give you practice in solving mechanisms and understanding organic chemistry. These will be held on Fridays except when exams are scheduled.

The tutorials will be graded on an effort basis: 0 (absent/didn’t try), 1 (showed up and acted busy), 2 (made a real effort). Scores will be averaged—if you can’t make it to a tutorial (and have a reasonable reason) let Brian know and you won’t be dinged.

Office Hours are by appointment so they can best be accommodated to your schedule; I encourage you to take advantage of this offer. The TA will also be available by appointment for office hours.

The course will cover the fundamentals of mechanistic organic chemistry, providing a foundation for synthetic, biological and physical organic chemistry research.

No meeting: Oct 8 (Holiday), Oct 9 (who wants to make up a holiday?), Nov 12 (Holiday), Nov 23,24 (Thanksgiving)