

GENERAL INFORMATION Winter 2026**CHEMISTRY12A (CHEMD012A.53 and 54) CRN37911, 38397 Modality: In-person on-campus course****Lectures: Chad Miller E-mail: millerchad@fhda.edu**

Class Lecture	Tuesday & Thursday	6:00PM – 7:15PM	Room ADM119
Office Hours	Tuesday & Thursday	5:30PM – 6:00PM	Room ADM119
Lab Section 53	Tuesday & Thursday	2:30PM – 5:20PM	Room SC2210
Lab Section 54	Tuesday & Thursday	7:30PM – 10:20PM	Room SC2210

Course Description: This is an introduction to the physical properties and chemical behavior of important classes of organic compounds, focusing on hydrocarbons and haloalkanes. Topics include retrosynthesis, spectroscopic structure determination, and the reaction mechanism. Laboratory experiments will involve the synthesis of simple compounds and the characterization of those compounds using infrared (IR) and nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectroscopy. This course is for chemistry majors or those in closely-allied fields such as biochemistry and chemical engineering.

Required Materials:

- ✓ **Textbook:** McMurry, Organic Chemistry, 10th ed, OpenStax
<https://openstax.org/details/books/organic-chemistry> (PDF download)
- ✓ **Lab Text:** *Experimental Organic Chemistry: A Miniscale and Microscale Approach, 6e*, by John C. Gilbert and Stephen F. Martin (Brooks/Cole: 2015; ISBN 978-1-305-08046-1)
- ✓ **OSHA-approved Safety Goggles** (Indirect Vent, Z87) & chemical resistant lab gloves (nitrile for latex-free)
- ✓ **Carbonless copy lab notebook:** 100 page carbonless copy spiral bound notebook. ISBN: 1429224541
- ✓ **Standard combination lock for lab drawer** (or small bike lock) to lock an assigned laboratory drawer.

Recommended:

- ✓ **Textbook:** *Organic Chemistry, 3e*, by David Klein, ISBN:978-1-119-31615-2 Klein, David. *Organic Chemistry, 3rd edition*, John Wiley & Sons: New Jersey, 2017. (Wiley publisher site for eBook options: (Copy link and paste in browser) <https://www.wiley.com/en-us/Organic+Chemistry%2C+EPUB+with+Enhanced+Student+Solutions+Manual+and+Study+Guide%2C+3rd+Edition-p-9781119351603> and De Anza bookstore: <https://www.deanza.edu/bookstore/> or other outlets)
- ✓ Molecular model kit for organic chemistry – many options available
- ✓ Lab coat

Important Dates: Please note the following dates**[Waitlisted students are not added to the class after the first week of class.]**

- ☑ **January 6 & 8: Attend the 1/06 & 1/08 lectures and lab meetings to maintain your registration.**
- ☑ **February 27: Deadline to drop classes with a grade of 'W'**
- ☑ **March 24: Final Exam date. 6:15PM – 8:15PM**

Classroom Courtesy: We want to achieve the highest level of learning experience in lecture and in lab and to accomplish that please refrain from conducting any unrelated conversations, cell phone activity (no calls, texts, IMs, browsing or camera use) and any other behaviors that would be disruptive to yourself, others and to the instructor. Students who engage in disruptive conduct will be required to leave the classroom. Computers in the lectures and lab can only be used for activities pertaining to the course material. Recording class lectures or related activities always requires the direct approval of the instructor.

Attendance & Academic Integrity: Students are expected to attend all lectures and labs. The course Grading Policy details the specifics for lack of attendance. All incidents of dishonest, unethical behavior including any cheating, copying the work of others and claiming it is your originality (also known as plagiarism), altering any graded exams, quizzes, lab reports, other classroom materials will be reported to the College Administration. Exams are taken in person and the chemistry solutions to all problems must be of the student's original authorship without the aid of any AI resources. It is your responsibility to recognize academic dishonesty: <https://www.deanza.edu/policies/academic-integrity.html>

GENERAL INFORMATION Winter 2026

CHEMISTRY12A (CHEMD012A.53 and 54) CRN37911, 38397 Modality: In-person on-campus course

Lectures: Chad Miller E-mail: millerchad@fhda.edu

NOTE: Copyright protection of instructor course materials: All materials developed and/or authored by this course instructor are protected by US copyright law and may not be distributed or sold to any third parties including individuals who are not course-registered students, other individuals, companies, Web sites and content aggregators or any other party that has no valid or lawful right to possess such materials. Any such legal distribution of materials requires in advance of distribution the written consent, including wet signature and date, of this instructor.

NOTE to all continuing students and transferring students: This instructor is not responsible for student academic performance or the grade outcome that might be committed by a student to a transfer school for the successful completion (a grade of 'C' or higher) of this course to meet transfer school admission requirements. It is the responsibility of the student and not that of the instructor to achieve and manage any and all course grades and course commitments made on their behalf to transfer schools.

Covid-19 Policies: Please consult the De Anza College return-to-campus web page and any announcements on your student portal that detail relevant information pertaining to the campus regulations and policies pertaining to Covid-19. <https://www.deanza.edu/return-to-campus/students.html>

Instructional and Student Services Resources: DeAnza College provides a variety of resources to facilitate learning experiences and student services including those listed below. Please visit:

<https://www.deanza.edu/services/>

- **De Anza College quarter guide:** <https://www.deanza.edu/quarter-guide/>
- **Student Success Center:** <http://www.deanza.edu/studentssuccess/> Tutoring is available for on-site and online tutoring on a range of subject matter including chemistry. Resources are in Bldg S43.
- **Counseling and Advising Center:** <http://www.deanza.edu/counseling/> Provides support in the form of counseling and assistance on academic matters and personal challenges.
- **Disability Support Programs & Services:** <http://www.deanza.edu/dsps/> Offers support services including accommodations and educational classroom assistance designed to help students with disabilities. Resources are in the can be reached at 408.864.8753
- **De Anza Food Pantry:** <https://www.deanza.edu/resources/food-pantry/>
- **Title IX resources:** <https://www.deanza.edu/titleix/>

Contact: Students may contact me using email (millerchad@fhda.edu) or by Canvas messaging Monday through Friday, except on Holidays. E-mail is this the most reliable contact method since I check email routinely during business hours, 8:00AM to 5:00PM. I attempt to respond within a twenty-four timeframe (sometimes far sooner), however questions that I receive on Fridays might have responses on the upcoming Mondays. Office hours are meant to accommodate any students having questions or concerns regarding the course content. Office hours can be walk-in or by appointment. Individual student meetings may be arranged by appointment.

SCHEDULE CHEM12A Winter 2026 Chad Miller (Lecture/lab content & dates are subject to change)

Week	Day/Date	Lecture Content	Lab Content	Exam Dates
1	Tues 1/06	Syllabus; Course logistics; CH1,2: Lewis structures, bond energy, orbitals, σ , π bonds, geometry basic MO theory, charge delocalization, resonance	Syllabus. Lab check-in & Safety Orientation	
	Thur 1/08	CH1,2: Acidity trends, element, inductive effects, resonance, equilibrium, solvation.	Lab1: Acid-Base Extraction Part B (2.21) Theory: 155-163; Procedure 163-168	
2	Tues 1/13	CH3,4: Alkanes, nomenclature, properties, torsional energy, acyclic & cyclic Conformational analysis acyclic alkanes, torsional energy	Lab1: Acid-Base Extraction Part B (2.21) Theory: 155-163; Procedure 163-168	
	Thur 1/15	Lecture quiz	Lab1: Recrystallization (2.17, 2.19) Theory:91-99; Procedure: 99-104	Lecture quiz
3	Tues 1/20	CH5: Stereochemistry, models, chirality, optical activity R/S absolute configurations	Lab1: Melting Point (2.7-2.8) Theory: 111-115; Procedure: 115-117	
	Thur 1/22	CH5: Enantiomers, diastereomers, meso compounds, pharmaceuticals	Lab2: Thin-layer chromatography (2.5-2.6, 2.21) Theory: 179-184; Procedure: 185-188	
4	Tues 1/27	Midterm 1 group study	Lab2: Thin-layer chromatography IR spectroscopy introduction (CH12 McMurry; CH8 Lab textbook)	
	Thur 1/29	Midterm 1	IR spectroscopy: spectra, examples	Midterm 1
5	Tues 2/03	CH6: Chemical thermodynamics, kinetics, transition states, Hammond postulate, equilibrium, intermediates (CH10: Radical reactions of alkanes)	Lab3: Synthesis of 2-chloro-2-methylbutane (2.10, 2.13, 2.21) Synthesis Theory: 471-473; Procedure: 473-474	
	Thur 2/05	CH11: Nucleophiles, leaving groups, structural influences, solvents, charge stabilization, S_N2 and S_N1 mechanisms	Lab3: Synthesis of 2-chloro-2-methylbutane IR spectroscopy: worksheets	
6	Tues 2/10	CH11: S_N2 and S_N1 stereochemistry, stereospecificity, S_N2 vs S_N1 , carbocation rearrangements, hydride & alkyl shifts	NMR spectroscopy: (CH12 McMurry; CH8 Lab textbook) Equivalent protons, chemical shifts, coupling-multiplicity, splitting, integration	
	Thur 2/12	CH11: E2 & E1 mechanisms (KIE), structural influences, stereoselectivity, regioselectivity, Zaitsev vs Hofmann	NMR spectra interpretation, signature peaks, examples and problems, worksheets	
7	Tues 2/17	Review of substitution & elimination reactions, mechanisms, rearrangement reactions, neighboring group participation	Lab4: Dehydration of 4-methyl-2-pentanol Theory: 342-346 Procedure: 346-347	
	Thur 2/19	Midterm 2 group study session	Lab4: Dehydration of 4-methyl-2-pentanol	
8	Tues 2/24	Midterm 2	NMR/IR: Combined spectra interpretation	MIDTERM 2
	Thur 2/26	CH7,8: Alkenes, properties, addition mechanisms, intermediates	NMR/IR: Combined spectral problems, worksheets,	
9	Tues 3/03	CH7,8 Mechanisms, regioselectivity, intermediates	Lab5: Reactivity of alkyl halides	
	Thur 3/05	CH7,8: Hydration, halogenation, hydrohalogenation, hydrogenation	Lab5: Reactivity of alkyl halides	
10	Tues 3/10	CH7,8: Oxidations, epoxidation, ozonolysis, oxymercuration, hydroboration	Lab6: Bromination of (E)-stilbene: (2.25-2.28) Theory: 358-362 Procedure: 372-375	
	Thur 3/12	Addition reactions in synthesis, strategies, disconnection theory, retrosynthesis	Lab6: Bromination of (E)-stilbene	
11	Tues 3/17	Synthesis examples, problems		
	Thur 3/19	Final exam study session	Lab check-out	
12	Tues 3/24	Final Exam 6:15PM – 8:15PM		FINAL EXAM

GRADING POLICY CHEM12A Chad Miller Winter 2026

Assessment	Points Each	Total Points	Percent of Total
Lab section total score	---	300	30%
Course logistics	5	5	0.5%
Lecture quiz	45	45	4.5%
Midterm 1 & 2	200	400	40%
Final exam	250	250	25%
Total Points		1,000	100%

Grade	% of Total Points	Grade	Percent of Total Points
A+	98% - 100%	B-	77% - 79%
A	91% - 97%	C+	74% - 76%
A-	89% - 90%	C	65% - 73%
B+	86% - 88%	D	55% - 64%
B	80% - 85%	F	<55%
% of total points determines the letter grade			

The lecture portion of the class has the above grading scheme.

The lab portion of the course has a total of 300 points. The lab instructors provide all lab content and lab assessments. The lab instructors manage the lab procedures, all lab requirements and grading for the lab portions of this course. The lab scores will be combined with the lecture scores to determine students' total points for the course.

It is each student's responsibility to attend all lectures and labs in order to gain the knowledge of the chemistry content and the problem-solving skills that are covered and assessed in this course.

Lecture assessments, including the lecture quiz, the two midterms and the final exam, are administered in-person in class. Students are expected to work individually unless otherwise directed by the instructor.

Students who glance at other students' solutions on exams (or quiz) or chat during an exam (or quiz) will receive a score of zero (0) on that exam (or quiz). Cheating on assessments results in serious consequences.

The use of AI-powered resources may from time to time support an understanding of the chemistry content, however, their use is prohibited during assessments including the lecture quiz, midterms and final exam.

Two (2) Lecture Midterm Exams and One (1) Lecture Quiz:

- Midterm and quiz grades will not be dropped and need to be taken on scheduled dates and times.**
- Midterm exam grades will not be dropped. An unexcused missed midterm exam will have a point score of zero (0) points. In the event a student submits a physician letter, or otherwise instructor approved documented reason for an absence resulting in missing one midterm exam, then the Final exam will be weighted to include the percent value of the missed midterm. The Final exam score will not compensate in any manner or be adjusted for two missed midterm exams.**
- There is no make-up lecture quiz.**
- There are no extra credit projects or activities that are scheduled for this course. The instructors retain the option of providing an unplanned assessment owing to extenuating circumstances or events that might affect the scheduled instruction of this course.**

Final Exam:

- The Final exam will assess the student's ability to understand the topics, principles and applications that are covered in the course.**
- The Final exam cannot be rescheduled, dropped from the total course grade or substituted.**

CHEM 12A SUCCESSFUL LEARNING PRACTICES

Organic chemistry has an historical reputation for being especially challenging for students and the following practices can help you get into a mind frame and study practices to succeed.

Our class necessarily will cover the course content at a rapid pace and requires a focused attention, the implementation of a conducive and comfortable study environment at home or on campus, consistent study practices and an individual resolve and motivation to achieve success.

This is a second-year course at De Anza College with the expectation that students already developed an awareness of how to manage academic challenges when taking either light or heavy STEM course loads. A dedicated attitude combined with motivation certainly helps keep students on track.

You are responsible for your grade in this class. You are encouraged to start and maintain a seriously dedicated strategy for effective study and learning in order to achieve success in the course. Take advantage of group discussions and activities in lectures and labs, attend office hours to assist you with the understanding of the course material and make peer connections for group study sessions.

Attend and participate in all lectures and labs. This is one of the most important recommendations I can provide. There is a lot of learning done during lectures and labs and the best way to keep up with the class is to attend all classes and labs. Lecture midterms, quiz and final exam and lab assignments, quiz and exam are all 'in-class' graded activities that will only be administered during the lecture and lab meetings.

1. Read lecture materials on topics in advance of their presentation in class.
2. Actively participate in class discussions and be at the whiteboard for problem-solving sessions.
3. Ask questions in class to gain clarification and a correct understanding.
4. Prepare for all labs by reading the lab text references in advance of the labs.
5. Identify and establish and maintain a compatible study environment free of distractions
6. If helpful, and it is my recommendation, study with classmates to supplement private study.
7. Keep current with the material and do not accumulate unread chapters or content.
8. Do not attempt to study too much material at any one point.
9. Do not cram before exams – pace your study and problem solving at the class tempo.
10. Try to maintain a healthy lifestyle to facilitate learning and balance school, work and home.

SAFETY INFORMATION

Students must sign and date a De Anza Chemistry Department laboratory safety contract during the first lab meeting to participate in the lab portion of the course.

Students must satisfactorily pass a laboratory safety quiz before being permitted to perform any of the labs.

Rules for Safe and Efficient Chemistry Laboratory Operations

1. *Prepare for each experiment by reading all of the directions before lab starts.*
2. *Locate the Safety Equipment.* Know the locations of the eye wash, safety shower, fire extinguishers, fire blankets, first aid kit, fume hoods, telephone and all exits that are to be used in an emergency. Your laboratory instructor will describe the use of the safety equipment.
3. *Protect your eyes.* Wear approved eye protection at all times when handling glassware or chemicals. provide maximum safety. Prescription glasses, if you need them, must be worn under approved eye protection. Contact lenses should not be worn in the laboratory because fumes may accumulate under the lenses and injure your eyes and the lenses make it difficult to flush chemicals from your eyes.
4. *Tie long hair back.* This precaution will keep your hair out of burner flames and harmful chemicals.
5. *Do not wear clothing with loose, flowing sleeves.* This precaution will keep your sleeves out of burner flames and harmful chemicals.
6. *Wear shoes that cover all of your feet.* Broken glass on the laboratory floor and spilled chemical reagents are all too common. Shoes that cover your feet completely will protect them from broken glass and chemical splashes. The best types of shoes are closed-toe made out of leather.
7. *Wear clothes that cover your torso and your legs to the knees.* Clothing will give your body needed protection. Good clothing can be protected with a lab apron or coat.
8. *Do not eat or drink in the laboratory. Do not taste any chemical reagent.*
9. *Do not smell chemical reagents directly.* When you are instructed to smell a chemical, do so by gently wafting the vapors toward your face. Do not inhale deeply.
10. *Do not pipette solutions by mouth.* Use a rubber suction bulb to fill the pipette.
11. *Do not work with flammable liquids near a flame.*
12. *Do not engage in games or horseplay in the laboratory.* Never run in the laboratory.
13. *Do not attempt unauthorized experiments in the laboratory.*
14. *Do not work in the laboratory in the absence of your instructor or his or her authorized representative.*
15. *Use a fume hood when required.*
16. *Handle glass tubing and thermometers carefully.* When inserting glass tubing or thermometers through a rubber stopper, always hold the glass close to the stopper and use a lubricant such as glycerin to help the glass slide through the stopper. Do not continue to try to force glass through a stubborn stopper, get a new stopper and/or get help. When inserting a pipette into a pipette bulb, hold the pipette near the bulb and GENTLY insert the pipette.
17. *When diluting, never pour water into concentrated reagents.* Always pour the reagent into the water.
18. *If you spill a chemical reagent on yourself, immediately flood the exposed area with water and then summon the laboratory instructor. Inform the instructor immediately about any other accidents or spills.*
19. *Be aware of your neighbors. Are they obeying the safety rules?* A neighbor's accident may injure you.
20. *Avoid touching your face and rubbing your eyes while in the laboratory.* If you must do so, first wash your hands. *Wash your hands before leaving the laboratory.*
21. *Never heat a closed container.* Pressure build up can cause the container to explode.
22. *Assume any chemical is hazardous if you are unsure.*
23. *Do not violate any other safety rule issued by your laboratory instructor.*

Housekeeping Rules:

1. *Clean up broken glass immediately with a broom and dustpan. Do not use your hands.* Dispose of broken glass in the special container that is provided, never in a regular trash can.
2. *Chemical spills must be cleaned up immediately.* Immediately notify your instructor who will advise you how to clean it up and/or assist you. Dispose of the collected contaminated chemical properly as instructed.
3. *Do not pour any chemical down into the sink or in the trash without authorization.* Clearly labeled disposal bottles will be provided when needed.
4. *Take containers to the stock of chemical reagents.* Do not bring stock chemicals to your laboratory bench.
5. *Read the label on a reagent bottle carefully.* Is it the correct chemical? Is it the correct concentration?
6. *Do not insert your own pipette, medicine dropper or spatula into a stock bottle.*
7. *Use special care with stoppers or tops of stock bottles.* Do not allow them to pick up contamination. Your instructor will provide additional instructions for handling the stoppers or tops found in your laboratory.
8. *Always replace the stopper or top of a stock bottle when you are finished taking some of the reagent.* Make sure that you put the stopper or top back onto the correct bottle.
9. *When pouring liquid from bottles, hold the bottle with the label against the palm of your hand so that the liquid is poured from the side opposite the label.* If any liquid runs down the outside of the label, immediately wipe off the liquid.
10. *Do not take any more of a reagent than is required.* Many of the chemicals used in the laboratory, including deionized water, are costly.
11. *Never return any unused reagent to a stock bottle.* If you take too much of a chemical, dispose of it as directed by your instructor or offer it to a classmate who needs it.
12. *Set up your glassware and apparatus away from the edge of your laboratory bench.*
13. *Thoroughly clean the area around your laboratory bench and the top of your laboratory bench before leaving lab.*
14. *Keep shared areas of the laboratory clean.* This includes areas such as the balance room and where the stock bottles are stored. It is especially important to keep the balances clean and free of chemical spills.
15. *Keep your laboratory equipment clean.* Good results depend on clean equipment.
16. *If a piece of equipment containing mercury is broken, inform your laboratory instructor immediately.* Keep the area blocked off to avoid scattering the mercury.
17. *Follow any other housekeeping rules given by your laboratory instructor.*

ADDITIONAL SAFETY INFORMATION

From the American Chemical Society Safety In Academic Laboratories Guidelines, 7th Ed., the following mandatory minimum safety requirements must be followed by all students and be rigorously enforced by all Chemistry faculty:

1) Chemistry Department-approved safety goggles purchased from the De Anza College bookstore (NOT safety glasses) must be worn at all times once laboratory work begins, including when obtaining equipment from the stockroom or removing equipment from student drawers, and may not be removed until all laboratory work has ended, and all glassware has been returned to student drawers.

2) Shoes that completely enclose the foot are to be worn at all times; NO sandals, open-toed, or open-topped shoes, or slippers, even with socks on, are to be worn in the lab

3) Shorts, cut-offs, skirts or pants exposing skin above the ankle, and sleeveless tops may not be worn in the lab: ankle-length clothing must be worn at all times

4) Hair reaching the top of the shoulders must be tied back securely

From the American Chemical Society Safety In Academic Laboratories Guidelines, 7th Ed., the following mandatory minimum safety requirements must be followed by all students and be rigorously enforced by all Chemistry faculty: (Continued)

5) Loose clothing must be constrained

6) Wearing "...jewelry such as rings, bracelets, and wristwatches in the laboratory..." should be discouraged to prevent "...chemical seepage in between the jewelry and skin...".

7) Eating, drinking, or applying cosmetics in the laboratory is forbidden at ALL times, including during lab lecture

8) Use of electronic devices requiring headphones in the laboratory is prohibited at ALL times, including during lab lecture

9) Students are advised to inform their instructor about any pre-existing medical conditions, such as pregnancy, epilepsy, or diabetes, that they have that might affect their performance.

10) Students are required to know the locations of the eyewash stations, emergency shower, and exits

11) Students may not be in the lab without an instructor being present

12) Students not enrolled in the laboratory class may not be in the lab at any time after the first lab period of each quarter.

13) Except for soapy or clear rinse water from washing glassware, NO CHEMICALS MAY BE Poured INTO THE SINKS; all remaining chemicals from an experiment must be poured into the waste bottle provided.

14) Students are required to follow the De Anza College Code of Conduct at all times while in lab: "horseplay", yelling, offensive language, or any behavior that could startle or frighten another student is not allowed during lab.

15) Strongly recommended: Wear Nitrile gloves while performing lab work; wear a chemically resistant lab coat or lab apron; wear shoes made of leather or polymeric leather substitute.

Student Learning Outcomes

- Predict products in reactions of alkanes, haloalkanes and alkenes by applying concepts from General Chemistry.
- Generate logical stepwise reaction mechanisms for simple organic reactions.
- Construct molecular structures from IR and ^1H NMR data.

Student Learning Outcome(s):

- Predict products in reactions of alkanes, haloalkanes and alkenes by applying concepts from General Chemistry.
- Generate logical stepwise reaction mechanisms for simple organic reactions.
- Construct molecular structures from IR and ¹H NMR data.

Office Hours:

T,TH	5:30 PM - 6:00 PM	ADM119
T,TH	5:30 PM - 6:00 PM	ADM119
T,TH	2:00 PM - 3:00 PM	S1206