COURSE SYLLABUS

American University of Beirut
Faculty of Arts and Sciences
Department of Chemistry

CHEM 211, Organic Chemistry I

Course Goal:
The overall objective is for the student to master the nomenclature, structure, synthesis, and reactions of the principal classes of organic compounds. The secondary objective of this course is to increase the students knowledge of the involvement of organic chemistry in everyday life, prepare the students for GRE, MCAT, and upper level organic courses.

Textbook:

Class Website:
http://staff.aub.edu/~tg02/teaching.htm to download class information, lecture power point presentations, and postings in PDF format (e.g., syllabus, class handouts, and for course resources on the internet).

Tentative Lecture Outline:

Week 1: Chapter 1: Chemical Bonding, Lewis Structures
Week 2: Chapter 2: Hydrocarbons
Week 3: Chapter 2: Hydrocarbons contd.
Week 4: Chapter 3. Alkanes Conformation
Week 5: Chapter 7: Stereochemistry
Week 6: Chapter 7: Stereochemistry contd.

Exam I
Week 7: Chapter 4: Alcohols and Alkyl Halides
Week 8: Chapter 5: Structure and Preparation of Alkenes
Week 9: Chapter 6: Reactions of Alkenes
Week 10: Chapter 8: Nucleophilic Substitution.
Week 11: Chapter 8: Nucleophilic Substitution contd.

Exam II
Week 12: Chapter 9: Alkynes
Week 12: Chapter 10: Conjugation in Alkadienes and Allylic systems
Week 13: Chapter 11: Aromaticity

FINAL EXAM (cumulative)
General:

In order to do well in chemistry, you must put in time and sweat:

1- Students that expect to succeed in this class must spend at least 12 hours each week studying.

2- Do the problem assignments.

3- Read your textbook BEFORE class discussion and that the assigned problems at the end of the chapters will be worked.

4- A good point to remember as we begin our study is that chemistry requires a cumulative knowledge of the structures and relations discussed or read about in previous sections: therefore, your exams will ALWAYS BE CUMULATIVE.

5- NO MAKE-UP EXAMS OR QUIZZES will be given except in prearranged, extraordinary circumstances. If you miss one, you get a zero. If you miss two, the chances of passing the course are slim. In case you are sick, you have to report to the AUB infirmary within 48 hours and get a letter from them about your condition with the appropriate doctor’s signature.

I will not formally lecture on all the topics in the textbook, for that would be impossible in the time allotted, but I will expect you to read and study all assigned sections. It is expected that you will devote a portion of your study time in the further pursuit of topics of interest to you.

Exams:

There will be 400 points worth of quizzes, two 50-minute, 100 point exams given during the term, and one 2-hour, 200 point, cumulative final exam given during the final exam week at the end of the term. Your final grade is determined by calculating the sum of points you have earned out of the total 400 points possible.

Classroom Behavior:

All cell phones, beepers, and pagers are to be Turned Off while you are in class. If your cell phone, pager, or beeper goes off in class you will immediately be asked to leave the class (no exceptions) and will not be allowed to return to the class that day. If you actually answer your cell phone in class you will be asked to leave the class and will not be allowed to return until you have met with the Dean.

If you sleep in class, put your head down on the desk while the instructor is presenting material, yawn in an obvious and disruptive manner, or otherwise disrupt the class you will be given one warning and, if the behavior is repeated, be asked to leave the class for the day. If you cannot stay awake in class it is suggested that you go home and get some sleep.

I do not feel that having a drink in class is normally a problem; students may bring soft drinks or water to class. Eating food in class is Not Allowed.