

Chemistry 5385-01
Selected Topics in Adv. Chemistry: Polymer Chemistry
Fall 2017

Instructor: Dr. Christopher Hobbs

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Office: CFS 317C, 294-3750

Class location and time: CFS 102 at 8:00 am

Office hours: MWF 11:00-12:00 pm or by appointment

Course Material:

Textbook: Malcolm P. Stevens, *Polymer Chemistry: An Introduction* (Oxford Press) **Required**

Course Format: This will be a traditional lecture course, but with emphasis on discussions and questions. You are expected to come to class prepared, having read the lecture material (textbook) before class. You will need to take comprehensive notes during lecture.

Course Description and Objectives: This course will serve as an introduction to first or second year graduate students studying chemistry. The focus of this class will be the study of organic chemistry as it pertains to the realm of polymer science. We will study various methods of polymer properties, synthesis and characterization. Modern developments in specific subdivisions of the field of chemistry are considered and this course may be repeated for credit, provided it is a different subdivision.

Prerequisite: Graduate standing in chemistry.

Office hour policy: I have office hours listed above. You can also make appointments. If you happen to be in the building and I am in my office, please stop by. If I am here you can visit and ask questions.

Attendance: I will be taking attendance via sign in sheet everyday only because the university mandates. You are expected to take this class seriously and attend all lectures. I have no policy correlating how many days you miss with the grade you get. However, missing a day will put you very far behind. Most of you have friends (I hope), and many of these friends may have taken this course before. Ask them how important attendance is and I am sure that they will say the same thing.

Grading scheme: There will be three midterm exams and a comprehensive final exam. Each exam will be worth 100 points. There will be weekly problem sets that will be worth 5 points each. These are graded subjectively (5 = perfect, 4 =

very good, 3 = good but needs work, 2 = you didn't understand material, 1 = unacceptable). There will be 10 of these. There will also be a short oral presentation by each student at the end of the semester that deals with an aspect of polymer chemistry. PowerPoint presentations should be 15-20 minutes in length. Topics will be chosen by mid semester. The presentation will be worth 50 points.

	Points each	Quantity	Total points
Exams	100	4	400
Problem sets	5	10	50
Oral presentation	50	1	50
Total			500

Grade breakdown: A (> 90 %)
 B (80 – 89 %)
 C (70 – 79 %)
 D (60 – 69 %)
 F (< 60 %)

Academic Dishonesty:

Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. SHSU can initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of academic dishonesty (cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials).

For More University Wide Policies: see <http://www.shsu.edu/syllabus/>.

Tentative Course Schedule

<i>week of</i>	<i>topic</i>	<i>chapters in text</i>	<i>note</i>
8/23 – 9/18	Introduction, basic concepts, polymer structure and properties	1-5	Exam 1 Friday 9-22
9/25-10/23	Vinyl Polymers	6-9	Exam 2 Friday 10-27
10/26-11/27	Nonvinyl polymers	10-17	Exam 3 Friday 12-1
11/6 and 11/8	Student presentations		
12/4	FINAL EXAM 8:00 am		