

June 4, 2018

## ORGANIC CHEMISTRY TAKEN AT OTHER INSTITUTIONS FOR WESLEYAN CREDIT

The Wesleyan Chemistry Department is concerned about the increasing numbers of students planning on taking organic chemistry during the summer at another institution. There are concerns about the intrinsic value of such intensive courses for a complex subject such as organic chemistry. Furthermore, many institutions hire outsiders to teach these courses and therefore their quality varies greatly even at some otherwise very prestigious institutions. The following regulations have been instituted to bring order to this situation.

1. Only faculty members currently teaching CHEM251/252 are authorized to grant permission for an organic chemistry course to be taken at another institution for Wesleyan credit. Permission must be requested before the course is taken. The following information must be supplied at the time the request for course approval is submitted: (a) the textbook used in the course, (b) the course syllabus, including which specific chapters of the textbook are actually covered in the course, (c) the total number of actual class hours, excluding time taken for examinations, (d) the length of the lectures, and (d) the name of the course instructor.

2. Final approval of a summer organic course is conditional upon the student presenting the following after the course has been taken:

- a) a written evaluation of the course by the student
- b) a copy of the final examination from the course
- c) an official transcript from the institution with the grade earned in the course

3. We will not normally accept outside organic chemistry courses toward the Wesleyan chemistry major.

4. Wesleyan only allows 2.0 credits for summer work. If the student takes the laboratory with the course, he/she may apply to receive an exemption from our Chemistry 258 laboratory, but will not receive credit for it.

5. A summer organic laboratory course does not grant exemption from Chemistry 257, the laboratory course that accompanies Chemistry 251. Students planning to apply to medical, dental, veterinary, etc. school must take Chemistry 257 to fulfill the chemistry laboratory requirement. \*

\*These schools generally require "two years of chemistry *with laboratory*", leaving it up to the individual school to define what laboratory sequence satisfies the health professional school requirement. Wesleyan defines the two-semester Chemistry 257-258 sequence as its standard laboratory sequence. This sequence must be completed before we can certify a student as having satisfied the chemistry requirement for medical, dental, or veterinary school. Many graduate programs in biology and molecular biology also require general and organic chemistry laboratory (Chemistry 257-258) for admission.

6. A course must include at least 40 hours of actual class hours, excluding time taken for examinations, in order to be acceptable. Also, the individual lectures must be 2 hours or less, as longer lectures are much less effective at transmitting retainable information.

7. Wesleyan has a requirement that the student must get at least a C- for the credits for the course to transfer. The Chemistry Department has the additional stipulation that the student achieve at least a B- to get credit for the course.

## ONLINE CHEMISTRY COURSES

Intensive online courses raise additional concerns that extend beyond those outlined above for in-person courses. The Chemistry Department will not normally accept an online chemistry course for Wesleyan credit. Requests for an online course to be considered for Wesleyan credit must meet the following criteria:

1. The student must provide: (a) a written statement detailing the compelling circumstances that prevent them from taking an authorized in-person organic course, (b) the course syllabus, including the specifics of which topics are covered and in what order, (c) the number of hours of video lectures that are expected or recommended either per day or per week, (d) a summary of the means by which students are evaluated in the course, and (e) the name of the course instructor. The requested information must be compiled by the student and sent to the faculty currently teaching the equivalent Wesleyan course; a link to a course website is not sufficient.
2. All exams and quizzes (if applicable) for any online course must be proctored.
3. As above, final approval of a summer online course is conditional upon the student presenting the following after the course has been taken:
  - a) a written evaluation of the course by the student
  - b) a copy of the final examination from the course
  - c) an official transcript from the institution with the grade earned in the course
4. No online “laboratory” courses will be accepted for credit toward CHEM152, CHEM257, or CHEM258.
5. A grade of B- or higher is required to receive credit for the course.