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Fall 2026 Syllabus

Instructor

Peter Norris

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Public Instructor Information

Instructor Title: Doctor

Instructor Professional Qualifications: B.Sc. (Hons) in Chemistry, Salford University (UK), 1986; Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry. The Ohio State University, 1992

Instructor Office Location: 5048 Ward Beecher

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Course Description

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Course Readings

Group	Title	Author	ISBN
Required	Organic Chemistry Lab Techniques	Nichols	Online

All experiments and techniques are referenced to the free Nichols book hosted by Libretexts. All required pre-lab reading is linked through Blackboard.

The course readings are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, research developments, current events, and/or to ensure better learning.

Schedule of Topics and Assignments

Week of	Reading(s)	Proposed Topic	Due/To Prepare for Class
8/24	Wk 1 Blackboard - Safety	Lab Safety	Blackboard reading on safety and course syllabus
8/31	Wk 2 Blackboard - Reduction	Ketone Reduction	Blackboard prelab reading on Reduction
9/7	Wk 3 Blackboard - Alcohol Oxidation	Alcohol Oxidation	Blackboard prelab reading on Oxidation
9/14	Wk 4 Blackboard - Ether Synthesis	Williamson Ether Synthesis	Blackboard prelab reading on Etherification
9/21	Wk 5 Blackboard - Ester Synthesis	Fischer Esterification	Blackboard prelab work on Esterification
9/28	Wk 6 Blackboard - Chromatography	Chromatographic Purification	Blackboard prelab work on Chromatography
10/5	Wk 7 Blackboard - Spectroscopy	Spectroscopic Analysis	Blackboard prelab and related notes from lecture
10/12	Wk 8 Blackboard - Aromatic Nitration	Nitration of Methyl benzoate	Blackboard prelab work on Nitration with strong acids
10/19	Wk 9 Blackboard - Grignard Reaction	Grignard Addition	Blackboard prelab work; anhydrous Grignard reagent conditions.
10/26	Wk 10 Blackboard - Grignard Workup	Acidic Workup of Grignard reaction	Blackboard prelab work on quenching with strong acid
11/2	Wk 11 - Makeup Week	Completion of previous experiments	Inform your Instructor to arrange required chemicals
11/9	Wk 12 Blackboard - Aldol Condensation	Aldol condensation under basic conditions	Blackboard prelab work on Aldol chemistry
11/16	Wk 13 Blackboard - Polymer Synthesis	Addition & Condensation polymers	Blackboard prelab work on Polymer chemistry
11/23	Thanksgiving Week - No Labs	No Labs	No labs

11/30	Week 15 Blackboard - Lab Final & Checkout	Lab Final & Checkout	Review previous labs and techniques
12/7	Final Exam Week	Final Exam Week	Final Exam Week

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