Course Overview:

**Purpose:** This course will establish a deeper understanding of advanced organic chemistry topics. In addition to enhancing the comprehension of organic chemistry, the course will build skills in critical thinking, problem solving, the access of information, and in the communication of technical content.

**Practice:** The weekly meetings will be divided into two portions: 1) Subgroups Discussion/Problem Solving and 2) Literature Highlight Presentation. The content covered in the two portions of weekly meetings will be coupled in such a manner to give the students a stronger context for learning and information retention.

*Subgroups discussion/problem solving (~1 hour):* There will an assigned journal article and/or problem set given to the students several days prior to the seminar meeting. The students are required to engage with the assigned materials on their own prior to the seminar. During the meeting times, the students will divide into smaller subgroups, consisting of 3-5 student and a faculty member. The subgroups will separate into learning spaces, complete with whiteboards. For approximately an hour, the subgroups will discuss and work through in a group manner, led by the faculty member, the assigned journal articles or problems. Dr. Burgett will make the weekly assignment for the subgroup discussions.

*Literature highlight presentation: (< 30 minutes total):* A student will be assigned to give a brief (~15 min) and informative digital presentation covering an article from the primary literature, to be followed by questions. The goal of the presentation will be to, in as effective manner as possible, communicate the content essence and importance of the paper to the class. The presenting student will select an article from a subject area related to the topic being covered in the subgroup discussion; Dr. Burgett will assist the student in the weeks prior to their presentation in selecting the related paper.

**Course Grade:** The course is graded S/U. To earn a Satisfactory grade, the students must: 1) attend prepared and actively participate in the weekly discussion sections, and 2) present a literature highlight. Dr. Burgett should be informed of any absences. **Two unexcused absence will result in an Unsatisfactory grade being assigned.**

**Special Accommodations:** The University of Oklahoma is committed to providing reasonable accommodation for all students with disabilities. Students with disabilities who require accommodations in this course are requested to speak with the instructor as early in the semester as possible. Students with disabilities must be registered with the Disability Resource Center prior to receiving accommodations in this course. The Disability Resource Center is located in Goddard Health Center, Suite 166, phone 405/325-3852 or TDD only 405/325-4173.

The instructor reserves the right to change, in anyway, the materials described in this syllabus at anytime.