MOLS7053
Research Topic: Advanced Organic Chemistry
Session 1, Weekday attendance, North Ryde 2021

Department of Molecular Sciences

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Notice
As part of Phase 3 of our return to campus plan, most units will now run tutorials, seminars and other small group activities on campus, and most will keep an online version available to those students unable to return or those who choose to continue their studies online.

To check the availability of face-to-face activities for your unit, please go to timetable viewer. To check detailed information on unit assessments visit your unit’s iLearn space or consult your unit convenor.

https://unitguides.mq.edu.au/unit_offerings/135824/unit_guide/print
General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
Unit Convenor/Lecturer
Fei Liu
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4WW 330
Students are encouraged to arrange a meeting via email.

Lecturer
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4WW 232
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Lecturer
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Koushik Venkatesan
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Students are encouraged to arrange a meeting via email.

Credit points
10

Prerequisites
Admission to MRes

Corequisites

Co-badged status
Unit description
This unit comprises study of an advanced topic in chemistry and biomolecular sciences. The area studied each year is tailored to the current student cohort. Emphasis is put on both the understanding of advanced concepts as well as their application in problem-solving and/or research environments. This unit provides the students with advanced and contemporary knowledge in the broad discipline of organic chemistry and focuses on topics that describe modern theories and practices in this area. As the control of change forms the heart of chemistry, this unit will examine the principles of change in more complex systems and in quantitative terms that are appropriate to graduate level studies. The molecular insight developed in this course will prepare students for creative research in basic and applied organic chemistry or interface fields. Topics may include but are not limited to: advanced structural chemistry and methods; mechanistic models and characterisation; advanced synthesis and catalysis; biomimetic processes and materials; molecular assemblies; reactive intermediates; and properties.

Important Academic Dates
Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at https://students.mq.edu.au/important-dates

Learning Outcomes
On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

- **ULO1**: Propose mechanisms of multicomponent reactions given the starting materials and reagent or reagent and product
- **ULO2**: Describe and outline modern theories and methods for understanding and analysing molecular structure and reactivity
- **ULO3**: Demonstrate an understanding of key molecular design and control principles in reactive intermediates/pathways and their applications in materials, catalysis, and pharmaceutical research
- **ULO4**: Demonstrate how to use small molecules to construct and interrogate complex chemical or biological systems
- **ULO5**: Critically analyse primary literature such as journals and reviews and evaluate conclusions with constructive criticism
- **ULO6**: Demonstrate oral presentation skills for effective communication of mechanistic analysis and structural characterisation

General Assessment Information
Assessment is based on assignments/workshops/presentations. These assessment tasks are provided so that you will have the opportunity to use the information gained in the lectures/
tutorials to test your degree of understanding of those topics and to gain discipline specific knowledge, problem solving skills, critical literature analysis as well as develop your own independent thinking. **There is no final exam for this unit.**

**If you miss a class/tutorial or are late for completing an assessment due to illness or misadventure, you are required to** 1) submit a request for special consideration no later than five (5) working days after the due date and 2) email the lecturer in charge of the topic and the Unit Convenor.

Please find further information on Special Consideration here: [https://students.mq.edu.au/study/my-study-program/special-consideration](https://students.mq.edu.au/study/my-study-program/special-consideration)

### Assessment Tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Hurdle</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oral presentations</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Weeks 4, 7, 10, 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workshops</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>weeks 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 12; details on iLearn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignments</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>weeks 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 11,12; details on iLearn</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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### Oral presentations

**Assessment Type**: Presentation  
**Indicative Time on Task**: 40 hours  
**Due**: **Weeks 4, 7, 10, 13**  
**Weighting**: 36%

Four 20 minute presentations on research from primary literature and critical analysis of results on a given topic.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Propose mechanisms of multicomponent reactions given the starting materials and reagent or reagent and product
- Demonstrate an understanding of key molecular design and control principles in reactive intermediates/pathways and their applications in materials, catalysis, and pharmaceutical research
- Demonstrate how to use small molecules to construct and interrogate complex chemical or biological systems
- Critically analyse primary literature such as journals and reviews and evaluate conclusions with constructive criticism
- Demonstrate oral presentation skills for effective communication of mechanistic analysis
and structural characterisation

**Workshops**

Assessment Type 1: Quantitative analysis task  
Indicative Time on Task 2: 34 hours  
Due: weeks 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 12; details on iLearn  
Weighting: 24%  

Six workshop tasks with discussion forums on literature topics  

On successful completion you will be able to:  
- Propose mechanisms of multicomponent reactions given the starting materials and reagent or reagent and product  
- Describe and outline modern theories and methods for understanding and analysing molecular structure and reactivity  
- Demonstrate an understanding of key molecular design and control principles in reactive intermediates/pathways and their applications in materials, catalysis, and pharmaceutical research  

**Assignments**

Assessment Type 1: Problem set  
Indicative Time on Task 2: 40 hours  
Due: weeks 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 11,12; details on iLearn  
Weighting: 40%  

This is a hurdle assessment task (see assessment policy for more information on hurdle assessment tasks)  

8 Assignment sets in total; answering problem sets involve providing short answers and calculations with literature searches. These will be provided in class or via the unit web page.  

On successful completion you will be able to:  
- Propose mechanisms of multicomponent reactions given the starting materials and reagent or reagent and product  
- Describe and outline modern theories and methods for understanding and analysing molecular structure and reactivity  
- Demonstrate an understanding of key molecular design and control principles in reactive intermediates/pathways and their applications in materials, catalysis, and pharmaceutical research  
- Demonstrate how to use small molecules to construct and interrogate complex chemical or biological systems
If you need help with your assignment, please contact:

- the academic teaching staff in your unit for guidance in understanding or completing this type of assessment
- the Learning Skills Unit for academic skills support.

Indicative time-on-task is an estimate of the time required for completion of the assessment task and is subject to individual variation.

**Delivery and Resources**

Lectures will be in weeks 1-12. Tutorials/workshops will be conducted from weeks 2-13 (please contact each lecturer for more details).

Lectures will be presented as a combination of formal lectures and interactive Q&A discussions. Some lecture material will be available on the unit web site, while other material will be provided in the lecture class. At the graduate level, the students are expected to demonstrate a high level of independence in their learning. This means reading the required materials (and beyond), searching in primary literature, working through problems outside of lectures. Working on the assignment questions with peer consultation is permitted; however, individualised thought processes must be clearly demonstrated. In the tutorials/workshops the students will present their seminars on assigned topics. All students will be expected to participate in discussions.

The main source of materials will be from the primary literature (i.e. journal articles, reviews, and sections of research books). Francis A. Carey and Richard J. Sundberg’s Advanced Organic Chemistry A&B is the recommended text and an electronic copy of this can be downloaded from iLearn or the library’s web site. This text should be used as a reference or background source for the topics discussed.

Students are expected to use iLearn and access the web pages regularly for announcements, relevant links downloadable course material, and other supporting information. The staff will be available for consultations in person after an appointment has been made via email.

The offering this year is similar to the year before with some changes of specific topics drawn from the current primary literature.

**Unit Schedule**

Please visit the iLearn website for details.

**Policies and Procedures**

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- [Academic Appeals Policy](https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central)
• Academic Integrity Policy
• Academic Progression Policy
• Assessment Policy
• Fitness to Practice Procedure
• Grade Appeal Policy
• Complaint Management Procedure for Students and Members of the Public
• Special Consideration Policy *(Note: The Special Consideration Policy is effective from 4 December 2017 and replaces the Disruption to Studies Policy.)*

Students seeking more policy resources can visit the Student Policy Gateway (https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

If you would like to see all the policies relevant to Learning and Teaching visit Policy Central (http://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central).

**Student Code of Conduct**

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: https://students.mq.edu.au/admin/other-resources/student-conduct

**Results**

Results published on platform other than eStudent, (eg. iLearn, Coursera etc.) or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in eStudent. For more information visit ask.mq.edu.au or if you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

**Student Support**

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit http://students.mq.edu.au/support/

**Learning Skills**

Learning Skills (mq.edu.au/learningskills) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to help you improve your marks and take control of your study.

• Getting help with your assignment
• Workshops
• StudyWise
• Academic Integrity Module

The Library provides online and face to face support to help you find and use relevant information resources.
Unit guide MOLS7053 Research Topic: Advanced Organic Chemistry

- Subject and Research Guides
- Ask a Librarian

Student Enquiry Service
For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au
If you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

Equity Support
Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the Disability Service who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

IT Help
For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/.
When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy.
The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.