

## RECITATION/PROBLEM SOLVING CLASS

Temple University, unique among many institutions of higher learning, offers in its chemistry curriculum, an extra class devoted to solving problems and answering questions. The classes are small in size, usually around 20, and afford students an opportunity to directly confront, thru active involvement, concepts, issues, “puzzles” and assigned problems from the text. Participation in the class should improve understanding, help students to master the material and **prepare for quizzes and examinations**. I may call on you directly (by name) to answer questions and go to the board. Attendance **will be taken** and students should come prepared to be involved in a proactive sense.

Preparation is best accomplished by: 1. reading the text (once should be sufficient); 2. attending lecture and reviewing your notes; 3. doing the assigned problems (as many as you can); most problems are short answer and take only a few minutes, others are more involved and require more time; 4. composing questions for presentation in class (write them down); 5. find a study buddy—someone with whom you can discuss solutions to assigned problems or concepts; 6. use the MSRC Center on the main campus or in West Hall. A conscientious investment in effort and time should pay huge dividends. Even if you learn one thing in this class the time will be well-spent.

The format of the class will be as follows:

1. Instructor will entertain your questions regarding: a) lecture material; b) organic chemical theory; c) assigned problems. NOTE: Answers to many of the problems are presented in the back of the text and solutions are given in the study guide. To go over each and every problem for which a solution is offered would be an inefficient use of classtime. Nevertheless if you do not understand a solution please feel free to ask; come prepared with your specific questions. Questions are ENCOURAGED! **NOTE: YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SOLUTIONS TO ALL THE ASSIGNED PROBLEMS.**
2. Classroom problems will be presented. These are additional problems, 6 to 8, over and above those assigned from the text. They will be similar in format to quiz questions and classtime will be devoted to solving them. Students may work individually or in groups.
3. Solutions will then be discussed during the latter part of the class period.

To encourage dialogue and participation, students may be requested to pose their solutions to problems on the board. Additionally, to further encourage you to participate, assigned problems may be collected and checked.

All of the above should aid you to master the subtleties of Organic Chemistry.

Remember: The only place success comes before work, is in the dictionary!