How to Receive an "A" in Organic Chemistry

1. **Go to class every single day**. You will never be able to make up for lost lecture time. Being able to hear and react to the professor's explanation of the material can assist greatly in understand the concepts. You can't get voice inflections and additional information provided from a power point.

2. **Manage your time**. Organic Chemistry is a course where you must be involved in the material every day. Whether it is re-reading a section of the textbook, re-copying notes, participating in a tutoring/SI session, make flashcards, etc. this allows you brain to be in Organic Chemistry mode.

3. **Make review sheets**. Go over your notes each day and make a sheet with key points of the day's lecture. Spending just 10 minutes making a quick review sheet will help you be prepared to study for the next test.

4. **Read the concepts to be discussed BEFORE you attend to class**. Your ability to comprehend the material will be easier if you have familiarized yourself with the material in advance. Even if you did not understand the material when you first read, hearing it again in class will assist in final comprehension of the concept.

5. **Complete worked out problems found throughout the chapters in the textbook.** Workout sample problems in the chapter as you read. The answers are presented to you. Become familiar with the steps involved in solving the problems. If there is a step you do not understand, mark it and attend a SARC peer tutoring/SI session or ask your professor during their office hours.

6. **It's all in the name**! The great thing about Organic Chemistry is that many names, give you great clues.

Ex. dehydrohalogenation

de- remove from	..... so...	the process of
hydro- hydrogen		removing a hydrogen and
halo- halogen		halogen from a compound!
-ation- action or process		

7. **Discover your method for comprehension.** If flash cards are not your cup of tea, then don't use them. Try various methods including, study sheets, formula cards, create mnemonics, etc. The professor does not test you on HOW you remembered the material, as long as you do remember the material. You need to be able to explain or defend your answers to homework/test problems.

8. Visit the **SARC website at** www.sarc.sdes.ucf.edu for the semester peer tutoring, supplemental instruction (SI), and academic success workshop series schedule.

