

Chemistry 391: ADVANCED LABORATORY 1
Spring 2026

Instructor:

Dr. Kristen Baker

Office: Caputo Hall 317

Phone: 717-871-7419

Email: Kristen.Baker@millersville.edu (I generally respond to emails promptly and on the same day. However, I do check my email less frequently after 4 pm and on the weekends, so please take this into consideration when contacting me with any questions you may have!)

Office Hours:

No appointment needed! Arrive with any questions you may have about the course material or come to listen to your classmate's questions!

Monday 11:00 AM– 1:00 PM

Wednesday: 11:00 AM – Noon

Wednesday: 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Friday 9:00 – 10:00 AM

If these times do not work for you, please use the calendly link below to schedule a 15-minute block of time to meet with me! You may schedule up to 30 minutes (2 blocks) a day. If you cannot find a time on calendly that works for you, please send me an email and we can work something out!

Calendly link: <https://calendly.com/bakekr01/15-minute-meeting>

I highly encourage you to visit my office hours for any help you may need in this course! As mentioned earlier, I am also available to meet at additional times either one-on-one or in a small group, just use the calendly link to schedule! (<https://calendly.com/bakekr01/15-minute-meeting>)

Chemistry Peer Learning Hours:

No appointment needed! Simply come to work on chemistry with your peers and get help from experienced tutors. Starts January 27th

Location: Caputo 211

Tuesday 4 – 6 PM

Wednesday 4 – 6 PM

Thursday 4 – 6 PM

Required Class Meetings:

1. Laboratory

391 (CRN 6765) F 1:00 – 3:50 PM

Location: 327 Caputo Hall

If you are unable to attend a class meeting, please email me asap.

Chemistry Department Seminar:

M 4:00 – 5:00 PM

Location: 149 Roddy Hall

Please make it a priority to attend all of the seminars this semester!

Required Materials:

- Bound composition notebook (any notebook will work fine!)
- One (1) set of Safety Goggles or Glasses

Recommended Materials:

- A modern organic chemistry textbook

Please see [Millersville University textbook store](#) for more details.

D2L:

All important course information will be found on D2L. It is your responsibility to keep up with this material, including any information posted in an announcement.

Millersville Email:

Announcements may also be sent via email. Please check your email at least once a day.

Inclusive Excellence Statement:

In this class, people of all different ethnicities, gender and gender identities, religions, ages, sexual orientations, disabilities, socioeconomic backgrounds, regions, and nationalities are encouraged to participate and share their perspectives and experiences that make each of us unique. Everyone will be expected to always treat each other with the utmost respect and consideration and without judgement. This classroom community will be a safe learning environment that encourages deep discussions based on everyone's individual perspective on the concepts learned. Any suggestions you may have on how to improve the effectiveness of the course are always encouraged and appreciated. Please do not hesitate to talk to me about any concerns you have about your success in this class.

Course Description:

Chemistry 391 (Advanced Laboratory 1) builds on some of the prior knowledge obtained during your Chemistry 231 and 232 lecture and in-person laboratory courses. Selected skills and techniques relevant to the modern organic and organometallic synthesis research laboratory will be introduced and developed during the semester; these include: searching the chemical literature, reaction planning, exploring reaction methods scope and limitations, reaction set-up, reaction monitoring by thin-layer-chromatography, chemical isolation, chemical purification, NMR spectroscopic analysis of reaction products and mixtures, employing mechanistic proposals utilizing electron-pushing formalism (EPF, a.k.a. curved-arrow notation) to describe elementary reaction steps, teamwork to compile meaningful data sets, and formal communication of experimental results via semi-formal report writing (utilizing an undergraduate research journal style). Please do not hesitate to reach out with any problems or concerns you may have throughout the semester!

Course Learning Objectives:

As your learning progresses, you should be able to confidently demonstrate your ability to...

1. Perform SciFinder chemical literature searches of a target organic molecule.
2. Plan reactions based on chemical literature experimental procedures.
3. Adapt experimental procedures to different substrates, reaction size (scale), and available supplies.

Laboratory Safety

You are expected to have read all assigned reading thoroughly, to have prepared a detailed notebook entry, and to have considered safety concerns prior to each laboratory experiment. Please be prepared to complete focused and efficient work during laboratory time. Being prepared for laboratory is the best way to stay safe. Most of the compounds that we (as chemists) work with have some level of toxicity; and many of the chemicals that we will work with in CHEM 391 should always be handled in the fume hood. General safety guidelines will be presented throughout this laboratory course and should be always followed. Specific safety precautions for each experiment will be covered before each lab. Additional laboratory guidelines including notebook guidelines and report instructions are covered in the weekly handouts.

Chemistry 391 Laboratory Attendance Statement

Make-up labs are not an easy option (due primarily to scheduling and space limitations). If you are planning to miss a lab due to an official Millersville University event, or due to a foreseeable life event absence, or if you miss a lab due to an emergency, please email, as soon as possible, to begin discussing options; failure to begin discussing options within a timely manner will lead to this course policy: missing the first lab equals a zero for the lab activity, missing two labs equals a zero for the second lab activity, missing three or more labs equals failure of the entire course.

University Approved Class Attendance Policy:

- 1. Students are expected to attend all classes.** It is the student's responsibility to complete all course requirements even if a class is missed. If a student misses class for an officially excused reason, then he/she is entitled to make up the missed work but only at the convenience of the faculty member. Responsibility for materials presented in, assignments made for, and tests/quizzes given in regularly scheduled classes lies solely with the student.
- 2. The University policy is that faculty will excuse absences for the following reasons:**
 - a. personal illness
 - b. death or critical illness in the family
 - c. participation in a university-sponsored activity
 - d. jury duty
 - e. military duties
 - f. religious holidays
- 3. Faculty judge the validity of student absences from class within the University's approved guidelines and may require documentation for excused absences.** Faculty will evaluate any reason, other than those listed above, for a student missing class and determine whether the absence is justified. In these circumstances, a student may make up missed work at the discretion of the instructor.
- 4. In the case of foreseeable absences, students are encouraged to notify the faculty member in advance.** A student who will miss class due to participation in an official University activity must notify the instructor well in advance of the activity to assure that the absence is excused.

Important Dates:

- January 27th, 2026 – last day to DROP/ ADD classes online; last day to request PASS/FAIL or AUDIT
- April 3rd, 2026 – last day to DROP classes (with a 'W' grade)

AI Usage:

This course requires students to develop fundamental skills that are circumvented by generative AI tools. Therefore, you are prohibited from using artificial intelligence (AI) tools, such as ChatGPT, Copilot, DALL-E, or similar platforms, for any course assignments. Submitting AI-generated content as your own will be treated as a violation of the university's academic integrity policy. All work must be the result of your own original effort and understanding. However, AI tools may be used for learning and studying purposes in this course. This includes activities such as brainstorming ideas, clarifying concepts, checking understanding, and preparing for assessments.

Academic Conduct Code:

Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Not only is cheating unethical and disrespectful to your faculty and fellow students, it is also self-destructive to your own academic integrity. All students are expected to maintain high standards of academic integrity; you are responsible for understanding and abiding by the Millersville University Academic Honesty Policy outlined below. *If you break this policy, you will be assigned a failing grade and may be prosecuted by the Academic Review Board.* While you may work together on some assignments, all work turned in must be your own work and answers must be written in your own words. Forms of academic dishonesty include (but are not limited to) the use of cheat sheets during exams, copying answers from other students, plagiarizing material, knowingly allowing others to represent your work as their own, and use of online databases that provide “expert” answers to posted questions such as Chegg, Slader, CourseHero, and Koofers. Additionally, I own the copyright to all course materials, which may not be duplicated in any form other than for your own learning. This includes uploading these materials to any online sites that will provide “expert” answers or giving/receiving old course materials from other students.

Millersville University’s Academic Honesty Policy: Students of the University are expected to be honest and forthright in their academic endeavors. Actions that violate the Academic Honesty Policy include:

- Plagiarism (using someone else’s words, ideas, or data)
- Fabrication (falsifying results in research or other findings)
- Cheating (the act or attempted act of deception by which an individual tries to misrepresent that he/she has mastered subject matter in an academic project or the attempt to gain advantage by the use of illegal or illegitimate means)
- Academic Misconduct: violation of university policies by tampering with grades or participating in the distribution of any part of a test before its administration.

For more information:

<https://www.millersville.edu/cae/teaching-and-learning/academic-integrity.php>

<https://www.millersville.edu/about/administration/policies/pdf/academics/academic-policy-academic-honesty-and-dishonesty.pdf>

<https://www.millersville.edu/studentconduct/files/studentcodeofconduct.pdf>

Academic Support Services:

Please see the Office of Learning Services in Lyle Hall as soon as possible if you have special learning needs for this class. If you have a condition that may affect your ability to perform

laboratory exercises, to exit lab safely from the premises in an emergency, or which may cause an emergency during class, or lab, please discuss this in confidence with your instructor and someone at the Office of Student Support Services. Appropriate accommodations may then be provided. <http://www.millersville.edu/learningservices/>

Title IX Statement:

Millersville University and its faculty are committed to assuring a safe and productive educational environment for all students. In order to meet this commitment and to comply with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and guidance from the Office for Civil Rights, the University requires faculty members to report incidents of sexual violence shared by students to the University's Title IX Coordinator. The only exceptions to the faculty member's reporting obligation are when incidents of sexual violence are communicated by a student during a classroom discussion, in a writing assignment for a class, or as part of a University-approved research project.

Faculty members are obligated to report sexual violence or any other abuse of a student who was, or is, a child (a person under 18 years of age) when the abuse allegedly occurred, to the person designated in the University [Protection of Minors policy](#).

Information regarding the reporting of sexual violence and the resources *that are available to victims of sexual violence is set forth at:* www.millersville.edu/titleix

Counseling Reminder:

Students sometimes face mental health or drug/alcohol challenges in their academic careers that interfere with their academic performance goals. Millersville is a caring community and resources are available to assist students who are dealing with problems.

- Counseling Center (717-871-7821)
- Health Services (717-871-5250)
- Center for Health Education and Promotion (717-871-4141)
- Campus Ministries
- Learning Services (717-871-5554)

Americans with Disabilities Act:

Millersville University is committed to equality of opportunity and freedom from discrimination for all students, employees, applicants for admission or employment, and all participants in public University-sponsored activities. In keeping with this commitment, and in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) the University will make every effort to provide equality of opportunity and freedom from discrimination for all members of the University community and visitors to the University, regardless of any disability an individual may have. Accordingly, the University has taken positive steps to make University facilities accessible to individuals with disabilities to participate in University programs. The University administration and management are obligated to report any allegation of discrimination to the appropriate office as defined in this policy.

Land Acknowledgement:

We would like to recognize the Native peoples of the lower Susquehanna River basin, those known and those unknown to us, who have stewarded the land, upon which Millersville University sits,

for thousands of years. We acknowledge that the land on which we gather, study, and work is the ancestral land of the Conestogas, Susquehannocks, Shawnee, and others. One group, the Shenks Ferry people, had a village adjacent to the campus. We pay our respects to the traditional occupants and caretakers of this land.

Questions?? Concerns?? Stop by my office hours!

Monday 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Wednesday: 11:00 AM – noon

Wednesday: 2:00 – 3:00 PM

Friday 9:00 – 10:00 AM

Laboratory Schedule:

WEEK	DATE	ACTIVITY
1	January 23	Check in, Syllabus, Safety, Introduce Acetal, & Scifinder
2	January 30	Run Acetal reaction, review JUCR guidelines
3	February 6	NMR, IR, MP of acetal product; Introduce Biginelli, Discuss Acetal report (200 points, due 2/23)
4	February 13	Run Biginelli
5	February 20	NMR, IR, MP of Sandmeyer product; Introduce third project, Discuss Biginelli report (200 points, due 3/16)
6	February 27	Run third project
7	March 6	NMR, IR, MP of third project product; Introduce Suzuki, Discuss third project report (200 points, due 4/13)
8	March 14	Spring Break
9	March 20	Work on third project report
10	March 27	Run 2 Suzuki reactions
11	April 3	Run 2 Suzuki reactions
12	April 10	NMR, IR, MP of all Suzuki products; Discuss Suzuki report (300 points, due 5/1)
13	April 17	Work on Suzuki NMR analysis
14	April 24	Finish work, clean all glassware
15	May 1	Notebooks and Suzuki report due

Disclaimer: This syllabus and calendar may change over the course of the semester. All changes will be communicated in class and through a D2L announcement or email.