Who and What should you take??

Chem 2:

Dr. Gower -

- Do suggested practice problems, review old exams, Gower and he was great probably the nicest and one of the most chillest teachers! You can tell that he has a passion for what he teaches so it makes the class interesting. His lecture slides are easy to follow along with and his exams are made with other Gen Chem teachers so they are a little tough but if you go to his office hours, he is very willing and eager to answer any questions that you may have.
- He teaches everything you need to know in his lectures and is really straightforward. He wants everyone to pass and do well, so he has no intentions on tricking anyone on any of his exam questions and, if you go to his office hours and get to know him, he will have no problem helping you out with your grades (if you're reasonably close). No curved exams, but 1 drop. I did Study Edge, it helped. I got an A. I strongly recommend him because he gives very fair exams and is very helpful during office hours.
- In chem 2, I never once paid for study edge/tutoring zone and all I did to study was Gower's online quizzes (in which he pulls questions from old exams) and suggested problems and I got an A! Gower would help me figure out the problems in office hours and even hinted at stuff I might need to know for the exam. Very nice professor.
- He's a nice guy and knows what he's talking about but he's not great at teaching chemistry. I don't remember if attendance was mandatory, but I always felt the lectures were pointless. Exams had little to do with lecture notes, tutoringzone was necessary for me. It was the most efficient way to learn material and practice problems identical to the exam. I liked him. He is really nice and helpful in office hours. His exams and quizzes are fair and as long as you study sufficiently, you'll do fine in his class.

Keaffaber.

- Easiest chem class of my life. Had 12 quizzes instead of 3 exams make up your grade, he literally got in trouble because he gave out too many a's. Tests were hard, but lectures were informative. Picky, but stresses that we must know the material well. I really loved Keaffaber as a professor, he's intimidating at first but he really wants you to learn and he is a great teacher. He is organized and explains the topics thoroughly. His class was set up differently (a quiz each week instead three big exams), he is super friendly in office hours and a great professor to get to know.
- Summer- It was a smaller class size of about 70 students. There were no midterm exams, but he gives weekly "mini exams." I really liked this because they were easier to study for and made sure you kept up with the material. They were all free response, but all calculations were simple (done without a calculator). He has required homework problems, but it helps. Sometimes he went deep into the material which could be
confusing, but overall it was a great class.

**Myers-**
- Very interactive class where you fill out handouts as he fills them out. He also performs in class demonstrations. I liked him and his exams are more than fair.

**Martin.**
- His lectures were pretty simple to understand, exams were the easiest of all professors, he does not test on things not covered in lecture. To prepare for exams, do all old exams, read through lecture notes and you should be fine; also, he does not write letters of recommendation.
- It was pretty easy enough to get an A since he had a really good curve for his class. I don't remember how good of a teacher he was since I tend to teach myself the material when it comes to chemistry. I didn't think he was overwhelmingly terrible or anything though, so I wouldn't tell someone not to take it with him. Pretty easy class, he is overall a good (and very animated) lecturer and if you study the notes from class and do the assigned problems from the book can definitely do well. Watch out for the second exam it is by far the hardest, the first and third are super easy
- Don't let the easiness fool you because the final was a lot harder than his exams. He was really entertaining and his exams were basically from his notes. He's in a band which is pretty cool. Easy A. He didn't really teach by the book. his exams were based mostly off of his lectures, so you better go to every class and take detailed notes. most people get an A

**Toth-**
- Her exams were pretty fair. Her notes were available for you to print out and “fill in” what she lectured in class. It takes a few classes to get used to her accent, but you don’t necessarily have to go to class every day since it’s not attendance-based. The best way to do well in the class is to take practice exams. She was not the nicest of professors and was intimidating to talk to.
- She was not super helpful, had a Russian accent or something, and her lectures were so-so, but she did give a lot of extra credit. She didn't do minus grades so at the end of the semester I missed an A by less than one point, but she was nice enough to give me an A anyway. She is a tough teacher but has a great grading scale. I definitely recommend taking her class. You will learn what you need to know and do well!

**Viege-**
- Very good instructor but don't take his casual personality lightly, he has difficult exams.

**Horvath**
- I learned "Horvath Chemistry." Basically, he does his own thing with the material and it's pretty hard. To make up for the difficulty of the course he offers a lot of extra credit, so unless you completely slack off or just don't understand the material at ALL, you'll be able to get at least a B. Use StudyEdge of Tutoring Zone. I used Tutoring Zone and got
an A. He offers office hours, so I suggest taking advantage of that. He's not that scary, just a little off his rocker -- and he knows it. The man's crazy about chemistry, is all. The class was very difficult because of his exams but the curve at the end was very lenient. I felt like he helped me for organic chemistry; would recommend only to those willing to really work for an A.

**Orgo 1: Professor:**

- Davidson
  - I took it over Summer A so much more condensed but she was a good teacher. She prepared notes that outlined the topics she was going to talk about and then went through the outlines during her lectures so everybody was on the same page. She's the wife of Portmess, so her exams were, understandably, difficult. She was plenty helpful in office hours and, even though the class was sped up a lot and we skipped over a few concepts due to time constraints, she was still a great teacher. She is one of the nicest teachers that I have had, but I would assume she is not the most lenient when it comes to helping you out on grades. None of our exams were curved, and no drops. I did Study Edge, it helped.

- White
  - McLee-White: has about twelve pop quizzes, drops one exam and one quiz. She is really nice and puts notes she took from lecture on sakai. Probably one of the easiest orgo professors at UF. Do well on final (60% of your grade)-Go to class: pop up quizzes, She is a great professor. She makes sure you understand everything. If you put in the effort, you can do very well. You get a few drops in quizzes, so when you max out you don't have to worry about them.
  - She's very enthusiastic about orgo and gives relatively fair exams. The only things I don't like are the pop quizzes because I prefer knowing ahead of time when I will have a quiz. To be honest though, the quizzes are pretty fair. she asks a ton of "but why" questions. so if you like explaining yourself on exams, then this class is for you. she emphasizes in class what she thinks is important, so you should definitely go to class. she also does pop quizzes, which is another reason to go to class. doesn't give you a grade scale, ever. pretty sure she doesn't do +/- grades (could be wrong?) She is also very nice and her exams are very easy.
  - She is easy but she is great at teaching the concepts. She does 4 exams and 4 quizzes, quizzes are directly from notes and exams are very fair and simple. I think she may have even offered a fair amount of extra credit. Only bad thing is she will call you out in class if she sees you texting. Also took TZ, was well worth it.

- Portmess
  - Fantastic educator and very useful for knowing information on the MCAT if taking it, otherwise very hard work to receive an A. definitely difficult but you will be forced to learn. You shouldn't be afraid to take him, there is a big curve and you can still get an A. A very good and thorough teacher and you will learn the material well. He post notes
outlines online before hand which help you follow along in class. His test though are very hard, yet in a fair way so if you put the time into the class you will be rewarded. So if your want to learn the material, which will help you taking the MCAT, and are willing to work take him.

- If you just want an easy A look else where. Also the few times i talked to him during office hours he was very easy going and helpful.
- Summer C with Professor Portmess. Take this if you can, I learned so much orgo that orgo 2 with another professor was not as bad as it could have been. He tests are a nightmare though.
- awesome professor, probably the best I've had so far. He makes the material interesting and relevant. However, his exams are extremely challenging. It's definitely not easy. He uses skeletal notes that he fills in with you during lecture. Definitely do as many practice problems as you can!

**Enhanced orgo 1 (chem 2212) - Keaffaber.**

- Still pretty easy. Doesn't throw any curveballs on his tests, if you read the book you'll get an a on his exams. Only thing is enhanced orgo is for chem and biochem majors only.

**Dolbier**

- I got an A, but I had to teach myself the material--mostly since the class was early and the professor can be a bit boring, so I had a hard time paying attention. If you buy his ultimate study packet ($50) and drill yourself with it, you'll get an A. At least, I did I learned nothing in class with dolbier and he writes generic Rec letters unless you know him reallyyyy well.
- Go to class. Exams based of off his notes. Super sweet. Go to his officer hours and he will love you. I loved the material and the class. His exams are tough but usually curves the A to 80-85. He is a very good lecturer and fair professor. If he is an option I would recommend him. Also the ultimate exam packet is essential for his class.
- Go to lecture - he does give hints as to what will be on the exams, his tests are fairly straight forward (he tests a lot on 'predicting the product', there are very little short answer responses, his synthesis questions are tricky though - sometimes, I felt like he required us to know more than he taught in class; he would go off on tangents a lot in class, teaching us things beyond what we could comprehend but other than that, his class was fair. You will not know your grade until final grades come out because he does curve the class in the end, based on the averages and he WILL bump you up to the next letter grade if you show consistent improvement on all exams. He does give plus and minus grades.

**Miller**

- He is a good lecturer and a nice guy, he wants you to do well. His grades are based solely off of your ranking in the class, and most students passed. Go to his office hours, he goes over the answers to all of the problems to his problem sets, which help boost up your grade. His exams are pretty difficult and can be very specific.
Aponick:

- Not too difficult, not too easy. Just right.
- Very nice and approachable professor who likes to crack jokes from time to time. His exams aren’t very difficult and seem pretty fair. His lecture notes are available for you to print out or buy at Target Copy and you can fill in with his notes during class. He gives extra credit with OWL; to do well on his exams, I would highly suggest buying the Solutions Manual so you can practice problems. Super easy and still learned a lot. He made it easy to understand. I highly recommend him if he's available. Take the weeklies with Lauren rather than Jen. I liked her a lot better. This professor gives a fairly good explanation of the material but there is so much more to learn that it is also very important to study on your own in the best way possible for you. He gives four progress exams with one drop and a final which gives you plenty of time to get familiar with his exam style. His exams are straightforward and relatively easy if you prepare in advance, the averages are usually safely in the C zone (so far, I'm taking it now). I would recommend this class if you want an A don't necessarily feel pressured to get married to orgo.

Schanze-

- He was a nice and helpful instructor, and his lectures were very clear. He encourages you to come to office hours for help, and is willing to work with you. As always, orgo is really difficult so you really have to work at it to do well. His exams are fair, but still not an easy A at all. Shanze who I did not find to be too difficult at all. He may not be the absolute best professor in terms of learning all the material but is pretty easy in terms of getting a good grade. I

Orgo 2:

Davidson

- Practice synthesis problems, Very helpful and funny professor, Go to class: helps you keep up with course
- amazing. Her notes are really clear and you fill them in as she speaks so it keeps you engaged. Plus she makes funny jokes. definitely do-able. Get ahead in the beginning and do a lot of practice problems. Go to lecture, very easy to understand her and comprehend the material with the way she teaches. Tests are pretty straightforward, however there are less 'predict the product' questions and more comprehensive questions ('whole picture' type of questions). She likes to test on mechanisms and synthesis as well. She does not curve that much on top of the grading scale she has for the class.
• Personally thought was a great teacher (is Portmess’ wife). Her class is manageable but still a little difficult. Portmess is the hardest (but best I have heard) and the guy starting with E is probably the easiest.

**Portmess**

- Definitely difficult but you will be forced to learn. You shouldn't be afraid to take him, there is a big curve and you can still get an A. Portmess, fantastic educator and very useful for knowing information on the MCAT if taking it, otherwise very hard work to receive an A.
- Portmess is an awesome professor, probably the best I've had so far. He makes the material interesting and relevant. However, his exams are extremely challenging. It's definitely not easy. He uses skeletal notes that he fills in with you during lecture. Definitely do as many practice problems as you can!

**Keaffaber**

- Great Professor, really cares that you want to learn everything. Exams are more than fair, and he provides past exam versions to help you prepare for the exam.
- As interesting as he is, I don't know that my learning style matched up with his teaching style. He loves making everything applicable to life and engineering, which is cool, but he went off on tangents which drove me crazy. The only thing I can tell you about this guy is that he's passionate about organic chemistry and really wants you to think. Best thing you can do is to seriously take advantage of office hours. Keep up with the material and ask him for help whenever you need it. He is an awesome guy, very interesting to listen to and incredibly gifted in chemistry. He is a little tough but explains everything very well. His exams were fair and very consistent with notes, but he always has his tricks with at least one impossible question. His own hand-written notes are sold at target copy and make following along his material a lot easier.
- Summer B so, again, it was much more condensed and tightly packed. He was probably one of the most knowledgeable teachers that I have had. He knows his stuff, and is a really difficult teacher. If you have him, make sure you read the book before the lecture in order to really understand the full effects of what he is talking about; it really helps it to sink in, if you come to class prepared (having read the book). He does not curve or drop any exams but he replaces your lowest exam grade with the average of all of your exam grades. He might have also curved the class in the end but I am not completely sure. I did Study Edge, it helped.

**Castillano-**

- He has a pretty relaxed but effective teaching style during lectures. Also he takes down his notes on a tablet then post them online which definitely helped in orgo 2 because of all the mechanisms. His first test and final where a little rough and at times confusing but the rest of the test where straight forward.
Schantl

- I had to teach myself the material and how to take his exams. Apparently people find his exam format really confusing, but I thought it was pretty clear what he wanted. Also, his exams are very easy if you know how to take them. The professor can be boring in class since he reads off powerpoint slides, but he's really nice and helpful during his office hours. Get a hold of his old exams and learn the format (he uses a lot of “boxes.”) About as difficult as the other professors, excluding Portmess.

Dolbier-

- He is a good teacher but he writes his notes all over the board and it is often hard to copy down. His exams are very straightforward, no tricks and he will tell you basically what to study. Good class and nice professor. He makes up his own random grading scale in which an A is usually either an 80 or 85% Dolbier for both. Go to class. Exams based off his notes. Super sweet. Go to his officer hours and he will love you. I loved the material and the class. His exams are tough but usually curves the A to 80-85. He is a very good lecturer and fair professor. If he is an option I would recommend him. Also the ultimate exam packet is essential for his class. ery good and nice professor; learned a lot from this class. To get an A, do as many practice exams as possible (has a booklet sold at Target Copy that has exams dating all the way back to 1993)

Enholm:

- Not the best lecturer/instructor so you will have to do a lot of the learning outside of the classroom. His exams are definitely fair though and compared to orgo 1, I found his class to be quite doable. You won't learn orgo well, but you'll have a better chance at getting the grade you want

Physics 1:

Field/Furic-

- Field is one of the most boring teachers that I have had, but his clicker questions are relatively easy. Furic is much more understandable but his clicker questions are pretty much impossible. They switch off teaching every few lectures. Field makes the exams, and they are much more similar to his past exams so it is necessary to focus on those. I am currently enrolled in this class so I can't give a completely detailed response. Overall, the lectures are pretty hard to bear and I have fallen asleep a good amount of times because they aren't the most understandable/enjoyable. However, they each do have their own sets of mini experiments that they demonstrate during each class to explain certain concepts which are, sometimes, interesting. I use Study Edge and it helps a good amount. You get to make a 8x11 formula sheet for the exam and many of the questions from the Study Edge exam review were similar to the actual exam which was helpful. This is all in terms of the first exam as I have not taken any more yet. No exams are dropped or curved.

- Many people have told me that Physics 1 w/ calc is supposed to be easier than w/o calc (but it requires taking Calc 2) and many people say taking Physics 2 w/o calc is easier
than w/ calc (w/ calc requires taking Calc 3). My opinion is take the same type because you don't want to cross over because much of the information does not overlap as much as you would hope/expect it to.

- Do TZ and getting a B is pretty much guaranteed. No crib sheet though, but put all formulas in your calculator and you should be good. Field and Rinzler. The exams were fair and the quizzes and homework help you bring your grade up. I recommend PHY2053 if you don't have a strong calculus foundation (like me.) I also used Study Edge with Zach, even though I like Michael Underwood from TZ more now that I'm using him for physics 2. He just explains things better, unlike Zach who just gives you shortcuts to solving the problems. Do all the old exams! They give you so many!

Zongan Qiu/Andrew Rinzler

- The lectures for this course are really not that helpful, so I relied on my TA and tutoringzone to learn the material. The professors were really nice though, and did a lot of in-class demonstrations. I found physics 1 without calc to be really doable. It's still math-based, but causes you to understand concepts more and learn how to manipulate formulas to get the answer you need.
- Physics 1 and 2 with calc, and quite honestly if you can do calculus it is better because everything makes sense. The teachers cycle like no tomorrow so the question is if you are comfortable with calculus. I took without Calc for both. Go to Study Edge/Tutoring Zone reviews, make your formula sheet, not too hard
- I took with calc, it was pretty easy to get a B, nigh impossible to get an A. TZ and you're pretty much guaranteed to get at least a B.
- go to class! get your clicker points!!! do study edge weeklies for the quizzes. do study edge for the exam. follow exactly what zach says to do. devote a lot of time to your cheat sheet and put everything on it. i took it with calc and i don't regret it. i'm really good at calc (lowest test grade in MAC2312 was a 99), but i still took without calc and did really well.Field/Furic. There are not many other options for different professors only TA. Lectures are not very helpful, mostly using Tutoring Zone exam reviews to prep. Also because there is no calc I feel like they solve many problems in unconventional means.

Parks:

- I took this class over the summer and it was his first time teaching it. I really liked his lectures and his lectures could actually be enjoyable. He was really helpful. I used StudyEdge and multiple practice exams to get an A in the class. DON’T FORGET TO DO WEBASSIGN and take advantage of HITT clicker points! They help more than you realize.
- I took Physics 1 with Calc and then Physics 2 without. This was recommended to me by students older than me and I would definitely recommend taking this pathway because physics is physics regardless, and those are the easiest classes (physics 1 with calc, and physics 2 without). I would also recommend doing Study Edge for Physics 1 and
Tutoringzone for Physics 2. Definitely look at the professors teaching the course each semester though cause that should be the greatest determining factor.

**Physics 2:**

**Eugene Dunnam** (summer)
- He’s a professor emeritus so definitely on the older side. He was hard to understand at times and is easily irritated. He would throw chalk or end class early when people were talking during lecture and give us a guilt trip. The way your grade is determined is different than the typical PHY2054 during the Fall and Spring. The exams were generally shorter but not bad. The cutoff for an A was an 85.

- without calc (PHY2054) is proving to be more difficult than PHY2053, but it might be because of my professors. Mitselmakher and Kumar make some pretty difficult exams. Try to stay away from Mitselmakher, at least. Kumar is at least nice in office hours. I'm currently in the class and the first exam was not very fair, in my opinion (and TA's and tutors' opinions as well.) However, TZ is helpful.

**Kumar/Mitselmakher**
I personally found it hard to follow their lectures in class, and our first exam was nearly impossible and very difficult. I’ve been told their “tea and cookies” weekly help sessions are incredibly helpful. Again, don’t forget to take advantage of WebAssign and HITT clickers.

**Advanced Chem Lab**
I really liked how the class integrated modern application and provided independent thinking. The instructors gave guidelines, but it was our responsibility to form an experiment. This helped with gaining research-based thinking/analyzing. The TAs are also very helpful. However, it can be graded harshly at times, and the finals/post-labs aren't easy.

**Biochem:**
- No choice on the professors, but most of them were decent. If you get McKenna you're set for the first exam at least. Dr. Long always teaches I think. She kind of sucks because she talks too much and you can't decipher what's important, but if you follow her study guide you should be okay. Also, RECORD THE LECTURES. I'm not kidding. Listening back over them over and over again is what helped me the most especially because they all go through material pretty quickly.
• Time intensive. Dr. McKenna is great. It’s a lot of work and isn’t easy. Because there are so many different lecturers, you have to adapt to each one and their exam style. Class basically comes down to memorizing A LOT of stuff, I wish I had looked into the course offered through the chemistry department before deciding on this one.

• Really liked taking biochem in the summer - it was a much smaller classroom and so much more laid back. It was also easier to get to know the professors. I went to most of the SI sessions my TA had every week (its like an extra discussion session that is two times a week) and got an A in the course. Keep up with the material, study ahead of time, and it will be much easier.

• Don't remember any names either because there were at least 5 different professors. The class is hard but not if you have already studied for the MCAT and mastered biology. The lectures are incredibly boring and professors read directly off of the slides, so they are unnecessary if you can make sense of the notes yourself. Exam questions were mostly directly off of a lecture slide, and some professors posted identical practice problems. Memorization hundreds of notecards will be necessary. Earning an A requires some serious dedication, but it is certainly possible.

(CHM3218) Professor Bruner is an amazing lecturer. Learned a lot from this course. Highly recommended over BCH4024 which is mostly memorization instead of applied logic.

MCAT:

Kaplan:
• Take in the beginning of summer, difficult to keep up with course during Spring semester. Helpful and provides many practice passages/questions. Not much of a difference between the course in class and online. I took a Kaplan course last Spring. They gave a ton of resources and my instructor was really knowledgeable and helpful. I would take it again if I had to go back and do it all over again. I do suggest not trying to take the MCAT during school, though. It's too stressful and you can't devote all your energy to it.

Princeton Review
• I hated it, with my course load I had no real time to invest in the class which was 3 hours a day Monday-Thursday with hundreds of HW problems a week. Basically study alone, with books, take your own notes, take every practice exam possible and you should do fine without it. Mostly the class is to make sure you do not cram for your MCAT.

• Very time intensive. Thorough review of everything on the MCAT (sometimes too thorough.) You get 5 instructors who specialize in each section, which is really helpful.

Genetics:
Dr. Miyamoto, Great professor and fair exams. Go to class: helps you keep up with course, Go to exam review sessions
Molecular genetics PCB4354 with Dr. Gurley

- It was a requirement for Microbiology majors and only they can take it (you can be asked to be placed in the class though). It was a great class, exams were straightforward, if you watch the lectures (not even go to class), and reviews you will do well. Only problem he does not write letters of recommendation.

- Great professor. Fair exams, tests from lectures. Do not necessarily need to go to class, as it’s recorded online. Challenging material, but definitely doable.

AGR3303
Dr. Kenworthy- He may not be the absolute best professor but he is very nice and his class is very easy. Both other PCB Genetics courses are much more difficult, but they also allow you to take more upper level courses because PCB3603 is a pre-requisite for many of those courses. Wilhelm Vermerris- Love this guy! He is from the Netherlands and has a cool accent. His lectures got boring at times, but he threw in some jokes once in awhile. Exams are pretty easy, and he gives extra credit. The final is optional because you get a drop.