You know organic chemistry is difficult, but did you know that it's also easier than many other subjects? The thing about organic chemistry is that it doesn't take long to learn the basics. Organic chemistry will likely be one of your easiest classes in college. If you're not convinced, let me show you how easy learning organic chem can actually be. Very few people are good at organic chemistry right out the gate, but the thing about this field of science is that it doesn't matter if you're still struggling with things like oxidation numbers months in because all what matters are your fundamentals. Yale professor Brian Stoltz has developed some organic chemistry study methods that will help you learn the subject better than you ever thought possible. These tips are great for anyone who is struggling to learn this material, regardless of the difficulty your class is having. You'll first want to know that it's best to skip over things like the mechanisms. Yes, they are technically part of organic chemistry, but they aren't essential at all. You can find them somewhere on the internet if you really need them so long as your teacher doesn't say otherwise. Don't worry too much about learning shapes and properties either since that also isn't critical knowledge either unless you need it for problem solving. Learning these things can honestly be an exercise in futility, so don't waste your time on them. One of the most important things that you'll want to learn is how to do reactions. You'll want to know how to convert between one functional group and another. That way you'll be able to substitute one for another in any given reaction. Your professor will likely cover certain reactions, but be sure that you know all of them for when there's a pop quiz or exam. You'll also want to learn the structures of different functional groups like alcohols and carboxylic acids. If you can look at them and say what they are, then you're ready for this course in organic chemistry. You need to know about basic amino acids and amino acids as well as their structures. You'll need to know how they react with other functional groups, and the structures of the different kinds of amino acids so you can be prepared for organic chemistry and find formulas. The thing about learning these things is that you'll need to learn them all at once so you don't forget any. Focus on each one and figure out how it works before moving on to the next one. You won't want to forget what you've learned because it's your job as a student to know everything that has been taught in class without skipping over any subjects. You'll also want to learn about common reactions like reductions, oxidations, dehydrations, and hydrolyses. A good way to learn these reactions is to watch videos online that explain them or ask your professor if you can see examples of these reactions in lab so you can see them in action. While you don't need to memorize every detail of every reaction out there, it's best if you know the basics. You want to be prepared for anything your teacher throws at you so long as the information you need is somewhere inside your head. This course will test everything that has been taught in class including the stuff that seems unimportant like carbonyl groups, catalysts, ethers and esters.

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