Online Organic (I or II) is as Much Like “Normal” Course as Possible

1. I cover the same material in the online courses that I teach during full fall-spring semesters. No more, no less; no harder, no easier.

2. Lectures are recordings of my actual recent live lectures
   • Anything I’d project on the screen in a live classroom will be shown here.
   • Anything I’d say in a live classroom will be said here.
   • The pacing will be the same as for my live classes.
   • Content-wise, it’s just the same!

3. Pause and rewind: an online advantage!
   • In live class, if I talk too fast or a student is distracted, the moment is gone.
   • With the videos, you can rewind and review, and whenever you want.

4. Speed control: an online advantage!
   • If English is your second language, you can set the videos to play a little bit slower.
   • You can also set the videos to play a little bit faster.

5. Self-discipline/self-motivation/procrastination: the online challenge!

6. Study groups and sense of community and shared challenge is lost or harder.
   • In a regular class, you may study with friends, discuss problems with friends, and encourage each other if one gets discouraged.

7. Can I get help from the teacher?
   • For local students, I will still have office hours
   • I am usually very responsive to emails or phone calls.
   • “Virtual office hours” using Blackboard “Collaborate” can sometimes be used, with pre-arranged scheduling.

8. Will graduate/professional schools accept an online class instead of a face-to-face class?
   • On your NDSU transcript, there is no record of the class being online. The transcript does not say or display anything to indicate that the course was taken online.
   • NDSU records office says that they have never been contacted by a medical school or a professional school to ask/check whether or not a course was taken online.
   • Since the course content and expectations are identical to the face-to-face class, there is no inherent reason why a graduate/professional school should have a concern or a problem.
   • I have heard/read that “some medical schools will not accept online science courses, especially those with online labs. A hybrid course with online lectures and in-person labs may be acceptable. It is the student’s responsibility to check the requirements for each school to which they are applying.”
   • http://www.science.oregonstate.edu/pre-medicine-faqs
   • Not sure how true or applicable or widespread that is.