Goals of Chem 311

- 1. Understand that a microscopic system is governed in quantum mechanics by the Schrödinger equation. Understand the physical and mathematic meanings of the solutions for simply systems such as particle-in-a-box, harmonic oscillator, and single electron atom.
- 2. Understand important quantum mechanical phenomena, such as the uncertainty principle, energy quantization and zero-point energy, and tunneling, etc.
- 3. Understand the meaning of the wavefunction as the probability amplitude and its role in representing the state of a microscopic system.
- 4. Understand approximate descriptions of atomic and molecular structures, particularly the variational principle.
- 5. Understand the quantum mechanical nature of a chemical bond via molecular orbital theory.
- 6. Understand molecular symmetry and it applications.
- 7. Understand spectroscopy, which resulted from the interaction between photons and molecules, for molecular rotation, vibration, and electronic excitations.