

Chemistry 485-486
Senior Seminar, 1999 - 2000

Monday, 4:15-5:15 p.m.
205 Kennedy Hall
Instructors: Drs. Darlene Loprete and Andrea Works

General:

Senior seminar is a culminating experience designed to give you the opportunity to integrate and apply your knowledge in science. It is a year long course, carrying two credits with a single grade given at the end of the second semester.

Goals:

The main goal of this course is to expose you to the various types of communication venues a person with a career in science employs. In addition you will get practice in integrating and applying your scientific knowledge; sharpen your skills in written and oral communication; and engage in analytical discussions.

Policies:

You must attend each class meeting and each departmental seminar. If you are unable to attend a class meeting or department seminar, you should notify Dr. Loprete prior to the meeting. Failure to attend two seminars will result in a 10% reduction in your final average. Absence from subsequent seminars will result in a progressively higher grade reduction.

Evaluation: Your grade in this course will be determined as follows:

Symposium Presentation	15%
Poster presentation	15%
Seminar	35%
Written report	35%

All presentations and the report will be evaluated on your demonstrated understanding of the science related to your topic, organization, clarity, quality of visual aids, your ability to answer questions.

Symposium: Each student will chose a scientific topic of his/her choice for the symposium. You then will give a 20 minute presentation on your topic using the appropriate visual aids.

You should practice your presentation at least once, preferably before an audience. In the presentation, you must exhibit an understanding of the subject at an advanced undergraduate level, and must make the topic understandable to students and faculty in both chemistry and biochemistry.

Written Report: A written report on a chemical or biochemical topic of your choice (which must be different from your symposium topic and meet with the instructors approval) will be due **February 7th**. The style of the report should be the same as that used in the *Journal of the*

American Chemical Society. Pay particular attention to the citations, figure captions, and table titles. The report must be typed and double spaced, be free of spelling and grammatical errors. The quality of the writing, the scientific content and demonstrated understanding of the topic will be a major part of your grade. We will return your written reports before your seminar presentations. This gives you time to make any changes that we deem necessary and should be incorporated into your seminar presentation. A late report will incur a 10% reduction in the grade per day.

Seminar Presentation: During the second semester, you will give a oral version of your written report to the entire department. The seminar should be about 45 minutes in length.

Poster Presentation: At the end of the second semester you will prepare a poster version of your written report. Your grade will be based on the clarity of your poster, the organization and your ability to answer questions about your poster as well as your ability to ask questions about others posters.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:

FALL SEMESTER

August 30	Introductory meeting
September 6	Labor Day recess
September 13	Discuss Symposium
September 20	Deadline for Symposium topics
September 27	Professor Goodenough's talk (7:30pm)
October 1 (Friday)	Symposium
October 4	No Meeting
October 11	Discuss the Symposium talks
October 18	Fall break
October 25	Discuss Written Reports
November 1	No Meeting
November 8	Paper Progress
Nov 10 or 12	Outside Speaker – Dr. Neil Marsh
November 15	No Meeting
November 22	No Meeting
November 29	Paper Progress
December 6	Outline of paper due

SPRING SEMESTER

January 17	Martin Luther King Day (no meeting)
January 24	Introductory meeting
January 31	Preliminary paper due (optional)
February 7	Written reports due
February 14	No Meeting
February 21	Seminar #1

February 28
March 6
March 13
March 20
March 27
April 3
April 10
April 17
April 24

Seminar #2
Spring recess
Seminar #3
Seminar #4
Seminar #5
Seminar #6
Seminar #7
No Meeting
Poster Presentations