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CHEM 485-486, Senior Seminar, Fall 2000

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Chemistry 485-486
Senior Seminar, 2000 - 2001

Monday, 4:15-5:15 p.m.
205 Kennedy Hall
Instructors: Drs. Darlene Loprete & Richard Redfearn

General:

Senior seminar is a culminating experience designed to give you the opportunity to integrate and apply your knowledge in science. It is a yearlong 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:

1. 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.
2. The Journal titled Blood is not an acceptable reference and should not be used.
3. If your graphs/figures in your presentation are not legible, your grade will be reduced by an entire letter grade.
4. Students that have taken or will take Advanced Biochemistry are not allowed to choose a topic in Molecular Biology. An F grade will result if you chose to ignore the previous statement.

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

Symposium Presentation	20%
Seminar	40%
Written report	40%

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, and your ability to answer questions.

Symposium: Each student will choose 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, which will take place October 6th. 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 5th**. 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 an oral version of your written report to the entire department. The seminar should be about 40 minutes in length.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:

FALL SEMESTER

August 28	Introductory meeting
September 4	Labor Day recess
September 11	Discuss Symposium
September 18	No Meeting
September 20 (Wed.)	Deadline for Symposium topics
October 2	No Meeting
October 6 (Friday)	Symposium
October 9	No Meeting
October 16	Fall break
October 23	Discuss Written Reports
October 30	No Meeting
November 6	No Meeting
November 13	No Meeting
November 20	No Meeting
November 27	Paper Progress
December 12	Outline of paper due

SPRING SEMESTER

January 15	Martin Luther King Day (no meeting)
January 22	Introductory meeting
January 29	Preliminary paper due (optional)
February 5	Written reports due
February 12	No Meeting

February 19
February 26
March 5
March 12
March 19
March 26
April 2
April 9
April 16
April 23

Seminar #1
Seminar #2
Spring recess
Seminar #3
Seminar #4
Seminar #5
Seminar #6
Seminar #7
Seminar#8
Seminar#9