

# Chemistry 432 - Chemistry Seminar

## Fall 2013

Instructor: Dr. Scott Day  
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Office Hours: TR 9-11

Office: Science Building 479  
Email: [day17@marshall.edu](mailto:day17@marshall.edu)

Classroom: Science Building 465  
Course PR: CHM 490 (Chemistry Internship) or CHM 491 (Capstone Experience)  
Required Textbook: None  
Seminar webpage: [www.marshall.edu/chemistry/seminars.asp](http://www.marshall.edu/chemistry/seminars.asp)

Time: Tues. 11-11:50 and Fri. 2-2:50

Successful completion of your capstone experience or chemistry internship culminates in effectively communicating to faculty and to peers two comprehensive reports of your project. In this course you will present an oral presentation and a written report.

### Course Objectives:

1. To gain experience delivering oral and written presentations with clarity and with scientific accuracy.
2. To demonstrate your understanding and retention of fundamental chemistry concepts.
3. To express your ability to retrieve, digest, and share relevant information from chemical literature.
4. To develop communication skills necessary for scientific dissemination.

### Grading:

This course will be graded as either Credit (CR) or No Credit (NC). A grade of Credit will be earned upon successful completion of your oral presentation, your written report, and regular attendance.

### Attendance:

Attendance is mandatory for this class. Missing more than 25% of the seminar periods without excused absences will result in a grade of No Credit (NC). See the undergraduate catalog for a list of excused absences and the process for securing an excused absence. During each seminar period attendance will be taken by passing around a sign-in sheet and it is your responsibility to sign it. The scheduled seminar list on the website will be updated throughout the semester and scheduled seminars will be posted around the fourth floor of the Science Building. It will be up to you to know when a seminar is planned. There will be additional, private seminar periods that are not open to the general department for seminar practice that will be scheduled through email.

### Written Report:

Detailed guidelines for writing your research report can be found on the seminar webpage. A completed draft of your paper, meaning you have followed the guidelines provided on the web, must be submitted to me by September 27th. If I have not received the draft by September 27th, you will receive a grade of No Credit for the course. The written report will be evaluated by your research advisor and one other faculty member. The second reader will be assigned to you and it is your responsibility to provide your paper to both readers. The final copy of your paper,

with both readers' signatures, is due December 6th. Note that you must get both readers' consent and it may take several iterations before approval so **don't wait till the last minute**.

Oral Presentation:

The oral presentation can be conducted either during a seminar period to the department of chemistry or at an approved scientific meeting outside the department. If you have the opportunity to present your research outside the department, you must have it approved by me *before* giving the presentation to receive credit. For oral presentations within the department, the schedule will be determined on a first come, first served basis. Seminar periods will be allotted for Capstone students with each time slot accommodating up to three presentations. You can choose the seminar date from the list of available dates as you turn in your written report drafts. Therefore, to be sure and get the seminar date you want, turn in the written report as soon as possible. Guidelines to prepare for the oral presentations can be found in more detail on the seminar webpage. Each of you will perform a practice seminar with me and the other students registered for the course (your advisor is also welcome) before giving your public seminar. You will need to schedule a time to practice by September 6<sup>th</sup>.

Your performance on the public presentation will be evaluated by faculty members in attendance that day. If more than one fourth of the faculty members find your presentation unacceptable, you will be asked to repeat the seminar. There will be time slots reserved at the end of the semester for those who must repeat their presentation. Failure to receive a passing grade on your oral presentation will result in a No Credit grade for the course.

Timeline:

Event	Date
Seminar Orientation	August 27
Abstract Due	August 30 by 5:00 pm (email submission is fine)
Schedule a Practice Seminar	September 6
Completed Written <i>Draft</i> Due	September 27 by 5:00 pm
Completed Written Report Due	December 6 by 5:00 pm

We will have an orientation to seminar on August 27th at 11:00 a.m. in Room 465 to go over the syllabus and answer questions concerning your responsibilities. On August 30th, you will turn in a short (4-5 sentences) abstract including your capstone/internship title and research advisor.