

Chemistry 432 - Chemistry Seminar Spring 2014

Instructor: Dr. Scott Day
Phone: 696-7054
Office Hours: TR 1-3 or by appointment

Office: Science Building 479
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Classroom: Science Building 465
Time: Tues. 11-11:50 and Fri. 2-2:50
Course PR: CHM 490 (Chemistry Internship) or CHM 491 (Capstone Experience)
Required Textbook: None
Seminar webpage: www.marshall.edu/chemistry/seminars.asp

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 write a 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.

Written Report:

Detailed guidelines for writing your research report can be found on the seminar webpage. The written report will be evaluated by your research advisor and one other faculty member. I will assign the second reader and help make sure you get feedback in a timely fashion. A completed draft of your paper must be submitted to me by February 14th. You will submit the draft to me by email with your advisor carbon copied to the email for the first round of reading/revision. If I have not received the paper by February 14th, you will receive a grade of No Credit for the course. The cover page of your paper with both readers' signatures and a final, electronic copy

of your paper are due May 2nd. 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. Several 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 reports. 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. A Powerpoint outline of your oral presentation is due to me on February 21st. If I have not received the outline by February 21st, you will receive a grade of No Credit for the course. Your performance on the 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	January 14
Abstract Due	January 17
Completed Written <i>Draft</i> Due	February 14
Powerpoint Outline Due	February 21
Assessment Day	April 8
Completed Written Report Due	May 2

We will have an orientation to seminar on January 14th at 11:00 a.m. in Room 465 to go over the syllabus and answer questions concerning your responsibilities. On January 17th, you will turn in a short (4-5 sentences) abstract including your Capstone Title and research advisor.