

Chemistry 432 - Chemistry Seminar Fall 2008

Instructor: Dr. Scott Day

Phone: 696-7054

Office Hours: Mon. and Wed. 3-4; Tues. and Thurs. 10-11

Office: Science Building 479

Email: day17@marshall.edu

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/seminar.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 recognize the importance of communication skills for career plans.

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 3 seminar periods without an excused absence 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.

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 at a meeting 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 student presentations. Students can choose their seminar date from the list of available

dates as they turn in their 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. Your performance on the presentation will be evaluated by faculty members in attendance that day. If more than one third 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.

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 make sure you get feedback in a timely fashion. *A copy of your paper, approved by your advisor, must be submitted to me by September 22, 2008. If I have not received the paper by September 22nd you will receive a grade of No Credit for the course.* The final copy of your paper, with both readers' signatures, is due in the main office one week prior to your scheduled seminar.

Other:

We will have an orientation to seminar on August 26, 2008 at 11:00a.m. in Room 465 to go over the syllabus and answer questions concerning your responsibilities. On Friday, August 29th, you will turn in a short (4-5 sentences) abstract with your Capstone Title to me.