

**Freshman Seminar in
Chemistry
CHEM 188
Fall, 2003**

Dr. Lyman Rickard

Office Hours: (or by arrangement) Caputo 215 M & W 9:00-11:00am

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Course Description

This course offers an orientation to the opportunities and services available to chemistry students in the university and professional environments. Students will develop a better understanding of the major and career options and will be introduced to the chemistry department faculty and programs.

Course Materials

Chemistry Department Student Handbook

Course Evaluation

Attendance 25%

Why Chemistry paper 25%

Four-year plan 25%

Poster presentation 25%

Grades

A 90-100% B 80-89.9% C 70-79.9% D 60-69.9% F <60%

Course Requirements

Class attendance and Participation

Class attendance is expected of each student. If a class is missed authorization for an excused absence must be obtained from the instructor. Absences are excused for illness, family emergencies or university activities. Absences due to university-related activities must be discussed with the instructor prior to the absence. Unexcused absences will result in a lower course grade. Students are expected to actively participate in class discussions. The information presented in this course and the people invited to speak are here for your information and to help you plan your educational career, please take

advantage.

Written assignments

All written assignments should be typed. Late assignments will be deducted 10% late penalty per day.

1. Paper: "Why Chemistry"

Due date: **Friday, September 12**

This first assignment is a 1-2 page paper on why you decided to choose chemistry as your major. Some questions that you may want to think about and possibly address in the paper are:

Who or what influenced you to declare chemistry as your major?

What do you like about the field of chemistry?

What are your present career goals?

What do you plan to do after graduation?

Do you personally know any chemists and how have they influenced you?

Have you ever visited an industrial laboratory or chemical plant and did this visit influence your decision?

Do you plan to use a chemistry degree as preparation for another discipline?

2. Four-year Academic Plan

Due date: **Friday, October 16**

Students are required to meet with their academic advisors to develop a four-year plan of courses for the intended major or concentration. Please schedule a meeting with your advisor far enough in advance of the four-year plan due date. (If you are not sure who your advisor is, please see Mrs. Jennifer Fisher.) The four-year plan should include all required chemistry courses for the particular concentration, required related courses, and specific general education courses.

3. My Favorite Molecule Poster and Presentation

Due Dates: October 10, name of molecule

November 14 & 21 presentation and poster

Tentative Schedule

August 29 Introduction to Chemistry 188

Chemistry Department Chair: Dr. Turchi

Meet your peer advisors

September 5 Classroom Etiquette

Attendance Policies

Academic Honesty

September 12 Review of Chemistry Curriculum

Review of General Education Curriculum

DARs

Bring your Student Handbook to Class

Paper 1 "Why I Chose

to Major in Chemistry"

September 19 ACS Student Affiliates Presentation

Co-op Presentation

September 26 Student Research Presentations

October 3 Introduction to the Library

STN Easy Search - Dr. Paul Studdard

Meet in the lobby of the library

October 10 Chemistry Careers Molecule Name and Preliminary Outline

October 17 Computer Lab reserved for research on molecule Academic Plan
October 24 Meet the Chemistry Faculty
October 31 Meet the Chemistry Faculty
November 7 Meet the Chemistry Faculty Sign up for poster printing schedule
November 14 Poster Presentations Posters Due
November 21 Poster Presentations
December 5 Preparation for Final Exams

Course Evaluation

Monday, September 8: Safety Seminar, Roddy 149, 4:00pm
Chemistry Department Picnic, STB courtyard

Thursday, October 23: 7:00 pm, Lyte Auditorium

Brossman Science Lecture: "Outdoing Maxwell's Demon: Taming Molecular Wildness"
Dudley Herschbach, Harvard University, 1986 Nobel Prize in Chemistry