

## CHEM 488 SEMINAR IN CHEMISTRY SECOND SEMESTER

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CHEM 487- 488 is a two-semester sequence (0.5 credits each) in which you will learn and practice techniques used in making effective oral presentations of a scientific topic. In this second semester you will present a seminar to the Chemistry Department on a chemical topic of your choosing and you will observe and critically evaluate seminars presented by others. You should have previously completed one semester of Chemistry 487 before registering for this course.

### Course Requirements:

1. Attend all Monday afternoon Chemistry Department seminars and class meetings.
2. Complete a "Seminar Evaluation Sheet" for each seminar attended.
3. Present a trial run of your seminar to the course instructor and your faculty mentor a minimum of 5 days prior to your scheduled presentation. It is your responsibility to arrange an acceptable time, place and date for this preliminary presentation.
4. Seminars must be announced by posting a title, presenter's name, date, time and place of presentation six days before the seminar.
5. Present a professional seminar on a chemical topic on the date which you have selected. The seminar should be presented with appropriate visual aids. Presenters should provide light refreshments.
6. Complete an exit interview questionnaire.
7. Attend MFAT review sessions and take the major field test.

**Attendance:** It is important that you attend every class and seminar. If you must miss class, please let me know in advance so that an alternative assignment may be arranged. A Request for Excused Absence form must be completed and submitted to the instructor. Attendance at other departmental seminars (biology, earth science math, and physics) is strongly encouraged.

### Grading:

Evaluations of seminars	100 pts
Preliminary Presentation	25
Posting Announcements and Reference	25
Seminar Presentation	300
Exit Interview	50
Major Field Test	<u>100</u>
	600 points

A = 92-100%  
A- = 90-92  
B+ = 88-90  
B = 82-88  
B- = 80-82  
C+ = 78-80

C = 72-78  
C- = 70-72  
D+ = 68-70  
D = 62-68  
D- = 60-62  
F Below 60

### Questions

Seminars and presentations at scientific meetings are a way of communicating scientific ideas. Often the presentations at scientific meetings involve new research data that has not yet appeared in the scientific literature. An important part of these presentations is the questions which are asked. A real involvement in the seminar topic can be demonstrated by the types of questions which are asked by the audience. Student will be expected to ask thoughtful questions at seminars.

### Evaluations of Seminars

Students will be required to complete a "Seminar Evaluation Form" for each seminar attended. These forms will be due at the end of the seminar presentation.

### Preliminary Presentation

Present a trial run of your seminar to the course instructor and your faculty mentor a minimum of five days prior to your scheduled presentation. It is your responsibility to arrange an acceptable time, place and date for this preliminary presentation.

### Seminar Announcements

Seminars must be announced by posting a title, presenter's name, date, time and place of presentation, six days before the seminar.

### Seminar Presentation

Present a professional seminar on a chemical topic. The seminar should be presented with high quality visual aids prepared using power point. You should dress and conduct yourself in a professional manner. The seminar should last a minimum of twenty five minutes plus additional time for questions. You should provide light refreshments.

### Exit Interview

Students are required to complete an exit interview questionnaire.

### Major Field Test

Students are required to take a major field test. This is a test of the student's knowledge in five areas of chemistry (analytical, organic, inorganic, biochemistry and physical). This is a standardized test similar to the SAT or GRE. Results of this test will be used in the determination of seminar grades.

## **Request for Excused Absence**

Student Name:

Dates of Absence:

Reason for Absence (circle one): Illness, Family Emergency, University Activity

Attach documentation to support the request for an excused absence.