

# Chemistry Seminar

## CH 391, Spring 2012, Dr. Schmidt

Lecture: ST138, F 1:00pm – 2:00pm

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Office hours: MWF noon-1pm, or as arranged

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**Purpose:** “Students must enroll for one credit of seminar and give oral and written presentations on subjects chosen from a list of supplied topics to meet the requirement of the major in chemistry” Significant focus will be placed on 1) searching, accessing, reading, interpreting and understanding the primary and secondary chemical literature, 2) effective oral and written communication of chemical concepts, and 3) discussion of ethics.

### Textbook, etc.:

- All of the primary and secondary chemical literature (required)
- *The ACS Style Guide*, American Chemical Society Publishing, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed., 2006 (optional)

**Attendance:** Class attendance is mandatory and lack of attendance for any reason will negatively affect the overall grade in the course (see Grading section of the syllabus). The instructor must be notified in person and by e-mail at least two weeks prior to any potentially excused absence. In the very unlikely case of a dire emergency, you must immediately notify your instructor by phone or in person. If a university field trip or athletic event conflicts with a class time, it is the **student’s responsibility** to make arrangements with the instructor.

**Grading:** The final grade in this course will be based on the coursework and attendance. The coursework includes an Oral Presentation (33%), a Research Paper (33%), and other assignments (34%). A grade of C or better is required on both the Oral Presentation and Research paper to receive at least a C in the course. If accepted, late assignments will be assessed a 10% per business day late penalty.

For each excused absence (including university field trips or athletic events) a percentage equal to the number of that absence will be deducted from the final grade. For each unexcused absence, 5% will be deducted from the final grade. So if a student were to have a 90% average based on assignments and three excused absences and one unexcused absence his/her final grade would be  $90\% - 1\% - 2\% - 3\% - 5\% = 79\%$ .

Other Assignments will be made during the semester, but include *eleven* presentation evaluations that are due by the final day of classes. Observation of others making presentations can be an effective way to develop your presentation skills. As such you will need to evaluate *eight* oral chemistry research presentations, at least *three* of which must be in person. The other *five* may be over the web or previously recorded. *A total of at least six hours is expected, and so actual presentation time must be recorded.* The oral presenters should hold a terminal degree and their presentations must be approved by your instructor. Evaluation forms will be made available.

Another common mode for presentations is in poster form. You are required to evaluate three poster presentations: two of which are on science topics and one of which is a non-science topic. These may be done either at the Apeiron or other scientific meeting as approved by your instructor. Evaluation forms will be made available.

Additional assignments include but are not limited to other in class presentations, literature searching exercises, paper reviews with faculty, ethics assignment, peer evaluations, and seminar hosting activities.

“Chemistry requires rigorous and meticulous habits.”

## UNIVERSITY ADDITIONS – COURSE SYLLABUS

### **Mission of the University:**

Washburn University enriches the lives of students by providing opportunities for them to develop and to realize their intellectual, academic, and professional potential, leading to becoming productive and responsible citizens. We are committed to excellence in teaching, scholarly work, quality academic and professional programs, and high levels of faculty-student interaction. We develop and engage in relationships to enhance educational experiences and our community. *Washburn University Board of Regents, 2010*

### **Definition of a Credit Hour:**

For every credit hour awarded for a course, the student is typically expected to complete approximately one hour of classroom instruction, online interaction with course material, or direct faculty instruction and a minimum of two additional hours of student work each week for approximately 15 weeks for one semester or the equivalent amount of work over a different amount of time.

### **Academic Misconduct Policy:**

All students are expected to conduct themselves appropriately and ethically in their academic work. Inappropriate and unethical behavior includes (but is not limited to) giving or receiving unauthorized aid on examinations or in the preparation of papers or other assignments, or knowingly misrepresenting the source of academic work. Washburn University's Academic Impropriety Policy describes academically unethical behavior in greater detail and explains the actions that may be taken when such behavior occurs. For guidelines regarding protection of copyright, consult [www.washburn.edu/copyright/students](http://www.washburn.edu/copyright/students). For a complete copy of the Academic Impropriety Policy, contact the office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs, Bradbury Thompson Alumni Center Suite 200, or go on-line to: [www.washburn.edu/admin/vpaa/fachdbk/FHsec7.html#VIII](http://www.washburn.edu/admin/vpaa/fachdbk/FHsec7.html#VIII)

### **Disability Services:**

The Student Services Office is responsible for assisting in arranging accommodations and for identifying resources on campus for persons with disabilities. Qualified students with disabilities must register with the office to be eligible for services. The office **MUST** have appropriate documentation on file in order to provide services. Accommodations may include in-class note takers, test readers and/or scribes, adaptive computer technology, brailled materials. Requests for accommodations should be submitted at least two months before services should begin; however, if you need an accommodation this semester, please contact the Student Services Office immediately.

Location: Student Services, Morgan Hall Room 135 (new location)

Phone: 785-670-1629 or TDD 785-670-1025

E-Mail: [student-services@washburn.edu](mailto:student-services@washburn.edu)

Students may voluntarily identify themselves to the instructor for a referral to the Student Services Office.

### **Office of Academic Advising:**

As a Washburn student, you may experience difficulty with issues such as studying, personal problems, time management, or choice of major, classes, or employment. The Office of Academic Advising is available to help students either directly through academic advising, mentoring, testing and developing learning strategies or by identifying the appropriate University resource. If you feel you need someone with whom to discuss an issue confidentially and free of charge, contact Academic Advising in Morgan 122, 785-670-1942, [advising@washburn.edu](mailto:advising@washburn.edu).

**Withdrawal Policy:**

During fall and spring semesters, students may go online and withdraw from full semester courses through the second week of class with no recorded grade. From the third through the eleventh week a “W” is recorded for any dropped course. After the eleventh week, there are NO withdrawals, and a grade will be assigned for the course. These deadlines will be different for short-term, out-of-sequence, or summer courses. To view the deadline dates for your courses visit the “Last Day” Deadlines web page at:  
<https://www2-prod.washburn.edu/self-service/coursedates.php>

**Attendance/Administrative Withdrawal:**

Although it is the student's responsibility to initiate course withdrawals, an instructor, after due notice to the student, may request withdrawal of the student from a course because of nonattendance through the same date as the last day a student may withdraw from a course. This would NOT absolve the student of financial responsibility for tuition/fees for the course in question. The inclusion of this information in the course syllabus is considered due notice.

**Official E-Mail Address:**

Your Washburn University e-mail address will be the official address used by the University for relaying important messages regarding academic and financial information and the University will consider this your official notification for important information. It may also be used by your instructors to provide specific course information. If you prefer to use an alternate e-mail address to receive official University notices, you can access your MyWashburn e-mail account, choose the "Options" tab, and select "Settings", scroll to the bottom of the screen, click enable forwarding and enter the e-mail address you would like your Washburn emails forwarded to in the “mail forwarding” area. Click add and then click on save changes. This will complete the process of forwarding your Washburn e-mail. It is your responsibility to ensure that your official e-mail box does not exceed your message quota resulting in the inability of e-mail messages to be accepted into your mailbox.

**Success Week:**

Success Week for undergraduate students is designated as the five week days preceding the first day of scheduled final examinations each Fall and Spring semester. Success Week is intended to provide students ample opportunity to prepare for final examinations. For academic programs, the following guidelines apply:

A. Faculty are encouraged to utilize Success Week as a time for review of course material in preparation for the final examination. If an examination is to be given during Success Week, it must not be given in the last three days of Success Week unless approved by the Dean or Department Chair. Assignments worth no more than 10% of the final grade and covering no more than one-fourth of assigned reading material in the course may be given.

B. Major course assignments (extensive research papers, projects, etc.) should be due on or before the Friday prior to Success Week and should be assigned early in the semester. Any modifications to assignments should be made in a timely fashion to give students adequate time to complete the assignments.

C. If major course assignments must be given during Success Week, they should be due in the first three days of Success Week. Exceptions include class presentations by students and semester-long projects such as a project assignment in lieu of a final. Participation and attendance grades are acceptable. The Success Week policy excludes make-up assignments, make-up tests, take-home final exams, and laboratory examinations. It also does not apply to classes meeting one day a week for more than one hour. All University laboratory classes are exempt from this policy.