

Chemistry 495: Undergraduate Seminar, Fall 2007

Instructor: David J. Butcher, ST-340C, 227-7646, butcher@email.wcu.edu
Meeting Times: Friday, 1:25-3:25 and other times as necessary.
Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday, 8:00-9:00 a.m., or by appointment.

Course Objectives

The primary goals of this course are (1) to improve your oral and written communication skills, and (2) discussion of topics which are relevant to the chemical profession but are outside the scope of conventional courses. The first goal is addressed by attendance at seminars presented by other students and visiting university faculty; presentation of a seminar; and preparation and presentation of a poster in class. We will discuss a number of topics relevant to the chemical profession, including presenting oral and poster presentations, suggestions on improving your teaching, the chemical literature, sources of funding for chemistry, and professional societies.

Grade Evaluation

90-100 %	A
80-89 %	B
70-79 %	C
60-69 %	D
< 60 %	F

Attendance/class participation (Loss of 7 % per unexcused absence)	30 %
Seminar announcement/abstract	10 %
Seminar presentation	30 %
Poster presentation	30 %

Attendance

You are expected to attend all class meetings and seminars. The only legitimate excuses to miss class are (1) a class or teaching conflict when an external seminar is outside of normal class time, (2) participation in a university sanctioned trip (in which case you need to provide written documentation ahead of time) and (3) illness verifiable by a note from a physician. There are no exceptions to this policy!!!

Seminar (Oral) Presentation

Each student will make a formal 30 minute presentation on a topic of his/her choice, after consultation with me. Your seminar will be closed to the faculty (that is, the class and I will be the audience). You are expected to select your topic by October 26. An abstract must be submitted to Prof. Butcher at least one week before the presentation. The presentation should follow the format of a professional meeting. Failure to give the presentation at the scheduled day/time will result in a reduction of your grade by one letter.

Poster Presentation

On Friday, November 16, you will be required to make a poster presentation (56" by 36") in the department during the graduate seminar class period, 2:30-4:30 on Friday. You are expected to select your topic by October 26. Two weeks before the presentation in class (November 2), you will need to provide the instructor a Microsoft Powerpoint file with your poster presentation.

Chemistry 495 Syllabus

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:

Western Carolina University is committed to providing equal educational opportunities for students with documented disabilities. Students who require disability services or reasonable accommodations must identify themselves as having a disability and provide current diagnostic documentation to Disability Services. All information is confidential. Please contact Kimberly Marcus for more information. Phone: (828) 227-7234; E-mail: kmarcus@email.wcu.edu

Academic Honesty

I assume that all students will adhere to the university's policy on academic honesty. Students who violate this policy will receive an F for the course.

Chemistry 495 Syllabus

**WESTERN CAROLINA UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY AND PHYSICS
STUDENT SEMINAR SCHEDULE – FALL, 2007**

DATE	ACTIVITY	SPEAKER
Aug 24	FIRST DAY OF CLASS – TEACHING MEETING	NO SEMINAR
Aug 30 THUR	EXTERNAL SPEAKERS	LENNY KLEVAN, APPLERA CORPORATION ARTHUR EISENBERG, UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER 9:30 A.M. IN FPAC MAIN PERFORMANCE HALL
Aug 31	FACULTY RESEARCH TALKS GRADUATE SEMINAR	Jack Summers and Scott Huffman Stephen Ballew
Sept 7	FACULTY RESEARCH TALKS GRADUATE SEMINAR REQUIREMENTS	Carmen Huffman, Brian Dinkelmeyer, and Jonathan Snover Malia Gonzalez Title of Talk for First Semester Students
Sept 14	FACULTY RESEARCH TALKS GRADUATE SEMINAR	Aster Dewanti, Arthur Salido, and Cindy Atterholt Rajendra Uprety
Sept 21	FACULTY RESEARCH TALKS GRADUATE SEMINARS	Jason Clement, Bill Kwochka, and David Butcher Mike Young
Sept 24 MON	EXTERNAL SPEAKER	JOHN BAYNES, UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 3:30 p.m.
Sept 28	EXTERNAL SPEAKER	MARCUS DELAY, UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA
Oct 5	EXTERNAL SPEAKER	DAVID DEATON, SMITH GLAXO-KLINE
Oct 12	FALL BREAK	HOLIDAY
Oct 19	EXTERNAL SPEAKER	BRAD JONES, WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY
Oct 26	GRADUATE SEMINARS	Paul Davis and Kelly Lawrence
Nov 2	GRADUATE SEMINARS REQUIREMENTS	Electronic Poster, Prospectus, TRAC Meeting Report, Director Selection Januka Uprety and Kyle Beard*
Nov 9	GRADUATE SEMINARS	Shana Weathersby * and Sung-Gun Park*
Nov 16	POSTER SESSION	ALL
Nov 23	THANKSGIVING	HOLIDAY
Nov 30	GRADUATE SEMINARS	Michelle Benoist* and Alfred Appiah*
Dec 7	UNDERGRADUATE SEMINARS	Erin Hinson, Joseph Moore, Erika Sesti

Student seminars are normally at 2:30 PM in NS-308 unless indicated otherwise. Please give an abstract to David Butcher 1 week before your seminar date. Dates may be changed due to external presentations.

*First semester/undergraduate student whose seminar may be closed to the faculty.

WESTERN CAROLINA UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY AND PHYSICS
FALL 2007 SEMINAR SCHEDULE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Institution</u>	<u>General Topic</u>
Aug 30 9:30 am in FPAC Main Recital Hall	Lenny Klevan Arthur Eisenberg	Applera Corporation University of North Texas Health Science Center	Recent Advances in DNA Typing for Forensic Investigation The Use of DNA Technology for Identification of Missing Persons and Unidentified Human Remains; our Nation's Silent Mass Disaster
Sept 24 (Monday at 3:30 p.m.)	John Baynes	University of South Carolina	TBA
Sept 28	Marcus Lay	University of Georgia	TBA
Oct 5	David Deaton	Smith Glaxo-Kline	Pharmaceutical Industry
Oct 19	Brad Jones	Wake Forest University	Atomic Spectrometry

Seminars normally begin at 3:00 p.m. on Friday in Natural Sciences Building Room 308.
Refreshments will be served at 2:30 in Natural Sciences Building Room 223.

CHEMISTRY 495: UNDERGRADUATE SEMINAR EVALUATION FORM

Presenter _____ Evaluator _____ Date _____

Rate the seminar on a scale π = Excellent, e = Good, 1 = Acceptable, 0 = Needs Improvement.

A. SEMINAR ABSTRACT/ANNOUNCEMENT

1. Did the abstract have all of the vital information? _____
2. Did the abstract get you interested in seeing the seminar? _____
3. Did the seminar correspond well with what was in the abstract? _____

B. PRESENTATION

1. Was it organized? _____
2. Did the presenter speak clearly? _____
3. Were the slides and drawings clear and distinguishable? _____
4. Timing: Was the talk too long or too short (goal: 30 minutes)? _____
5. Continuity: Did the talk flow well? _____

C. CONTENT

1. Did the seminar have a good introduction? _____
2. Was there sufficient background material to make the seminar understandable? _____
3. Did the seminar have a good conclusion? _____

D. QUESTIONS

1. Were the questions answered clearly and succinctly? _____
2. Did it appear that the speaker considered potential questions prior to the presentation? _____

E. WHAT POINTS CAN THE SPEAKER IMPROVE? PLEASE BE EXPLICIT IN YOUR COMMENTS AND USE CONSTRUCTIVE CRITICISM.

Student Schedule Sheet

Semester/Year: _____

Name: _____

Office No. _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____