

## CHEM 491: Chemistry Undergraduate or Graduate Seminar, Spring 2016

**Fridays 1-2:15 in CHE 101 (Mondays 1–2:15 for practice talks)**

**Course Description:** All CHEM 491 students and some CHEM 691 students will present a seminar on a chemistry topic to a scientific audience. Presentation dates will be determined after consultation with the class. When not presenting, students are expected to attend other seminars held during regular class periods. The duration of each student seminar will be a maximum of **25 minutes**, including five minutes for discussion. Students may make a presentation on their research (recommended) or on a recent (2010 or later) chemistry-related article from the literature. A dress rehearsal of the talk **must** be done the Monday prior to the Friday seminar. A seminar announcement (*title, name, date & time of seminar, abstract, and reference of the paper being presented, if applicable*) **must** be prepared for distribution at the time of the practice talk. If a literature paper is being presented, it is *not acceptable* to use the paper's abstract for the presentation. The abstract should be in your own words and not the authors. In the event that you do not perform the practice talk on the assigned date you must contact the instructor prior to that Monday. If you do not contact the instructor and you are not ready to go you will receive a grade for the course lower than received (1 grade).

### Learning Outcome:

- Develop skills for presenting a logical and well-organized oral seminar.

**Course Expectations:** Students are expected to attend **all** seminars, including Departmental seminars, presented during the regularly scheduled class periods. Prior notification of absence is required. Timely scheduling of a practice talk and submission of an abstract is the responsibility of the presenter; points will be deducted for tardiness. Students are expected to participate in seminar discussions. Graduate students are required to attend the three undergraduate practice seminars on Monday as assigned.

**Grading:** There are no written exams. Grades will be determined using the following:

- Audience grading (10%): based on scores from the audience
- Attendance (10%): deductions for unexcused absences
- Abstract (20%) Independent of score on presentation
  - Between 150-200 words
  - Adequately describe the presentation *in your own words*
  - Completed on time.
- Presentation (50%)
  - Organization, clarity of figures
  - Interaction with audience, clarity of ideas, logical flow
  - Question and answer period
- Participation (10 %): involvement in discussion of other seminars, preparation, practice of seminar

In the event that you do not have research to present you can opt to present a literature paper. You are expected to find at least 5 possible peer reviewed journal articles that were published after 2009. The five papers can be on any topic of your choosing. However, you must meet with the instructor and go over your choices before a final article is chosen.

## UNLV POLICIES

**Academic Misconduct** — Academic integrity is a legitimate concern for every member of the campus community; all share in upholding the fundamental values of honesty, trust, respect, fairness, responsibility and professionalism. By choosing to join the UNLV community, students accept the expectations of the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and are encouraged when faced with choices to always take the ethical path. Students enrolling in UNLV assume the obligation to conduct themselves in a manner compatible with UNLV's function as an educational institution. An example of academic misconduct is plagiarism. Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of another, from the Internet or any source, without proper citation of the sources. See the Student Academic Misconduct Policy (approved December 9, 2005) located at: <https://www.unlv.edu/studentconduct/student-conduct>.

**Copyright** — The University requires all members of the University Community to familiarize themselves with and to follow copyright and fair use requirements. **You are individually and solely responsible for violations of copyright and fair use laws. The university will neither protect nor defend you nor assume any responsibility for employee or student violations of fair use laws.** Violations of copyright laws could subject you to federal and state civil penalties and criminal liability, as well as disciplinary action under University policies. Additional information can be found at: <http://www.unlv.edu/provost/copyright>.

**Disability Resource Center (DRC)** — The UNLV Disability Resource Center (SSC-A 143, <http://drc.unlv.edu/>, 702-895-0866) provides resources for students with disabilities. If you feel that you have a disability, please make an appointment with a Disabilities Specialist at the DRC to discuss what options may be available to you. If you are registered with the UNLV Disability Resource Center, bring your Academic Accommodation Plan from the DRC to the instructor during office hours so that you may work together to develop strategies for implementing the accommodations to meet both your needs and the requirements of the course. Any information you provide is private and will be treated as such. To maintain the confidentiality of your request, please do not approach the instructor in front of others to discuss your accommodation needs.

**Religious Holidays Policy** — Any student missing class quizzes, examinations, or any other class or lab work because of observance of religious holidays shall be given an opportunity during that semester to make up missed work. The make-up will apply to the religious holiday absence only. It shall be the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor within the first 14 calendar days of the course for fall and spring courses (excepting modular courses), or within the first 7 calendar days of the course for summer and modular courses, of his or her intention to participate in religious holidays which do not fall on state holidays or periods of class recess. For additional information, please visit: <http://catalog.unlv.edu/content.php?catoid=6&navoid=531>.

**Transparency in Learning and Teaching** — The University encourages application of the transparency method of constructing assignments for student success. Please see these two links for further information:

<https://www.unlv.edu/provost/teachingandlearning>

<https://www.unlv.edu/provost/transparency>

**Incomplete Grades** — The grade of I—Incomplete—can be granted when a student has satisfactorily completed three-fourths of course work for that semester/session but for reason(s) beyond the student’s control, and acceptable to the instructor, cannot complete the last part of the course, and the instructor believes that the student can finish the course without repeating it. The incomplete work must be made up before the end of the following regular semester for undergraduate courses. Graduate students receiving “I” grades in 500-, 600-, or 700-level courses have up to one calendar year to complete the work, at the discretion of the instructor. If course requirements are not completed within the time indicated, a grade of F will be recorded and the GPA will be adjusted accordingly. Students who are fulfilling an Incomplete do not register for the course but make individual arrangements with the instructor who assigned the I grade.

**Tutoring and Coaching** — The Academic Success Center (ASC) provides tutoring, academic success coaching and other academic assistance for all UNLV undergraduate students. For information regarding tutoring subjects, tutoring times, and other ASC programs and services, visit <http://www.unlv.edu/asc> or call 702-895- 3177. The ASC building is located across from the Student Services Complex (SSC). Academic success coaching is located on the second floor of the SSC (ASC Coaching Spot). Drop-in tutoring is located on the second floor of the Lied Library and College of Engineering TEB second floor.

**UNLV Writing Center** — One-on- one or small group assistance with writing is available free of charge to UNLV students at the Writing Center, located in CDC-3-301. Although walk-in consultations are sometimes available, students with appointments will receive priority assistance. Appointments may be made in person or by calling 702-895-3908. The student’s Rebel ID Card, a copy of the assignment (if possible), and two copies of any writing to be reviewed are requested for the consultation. More information can be found at: <http://writingcenter.unlv.edu/>.

**Rebelmail** — By policy, faculty and staff should e-mail students’ Rebelmail accounts only. Rebelmail is UNLV’s official e-mail system for students. It is one of the primary ways students receive official university communication such as information about deadlines, major campus events, and announcements. All UNLV students receive a Rebelmail account after they have been admitted to the university. Students’ e-mail prefixes are listed on class rosters. The suffix is always @[unlv.nevada.edu](mailto:unlv.nevada.edu). **Emailing within WebCampus is acceptable.**

**Library Resources** — Students may consult with a librarian on research needs. For this class, the subject librarian is [https://www.library.unlv.edu/contact/librarians\\_by\\_subject](https://www.library.unlv.edu/contact/librarians_by_subject). UNLV Libraries provides resources to support students’ access to information. Discovery, access, and use of information are vital skills for academic work and for successful post-college life. Access library resources and ask questions at <https://www.library.unlv.edu/>.

**Final Examinations** — The University requires that final exams given at the end of a course occur at the time and on the day specified in the final exam schedule. See the schedule at: <http://www.unlv.edu/registrar/calendars>.

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