

Chemistry Seminar-Freshmen CHEM A496-001 Fall 2013

Freshmen should be signed up for Chem A496-001 will get 1 credit for participating in all of the Fall 2013 activities and demonstrations. You will also get service learning credit for this course.

Mondays 3:30-4:20PM, Monroe 127 (see Schedule on Bb)

Instructor: Kurt Birdwhistell (ph: 865-3272) email: birdwhis@loyno.edu, Office MO 217.

Course Goal: To expose students majoring in the sciences to research topics of current interest in chemistry and to give students opportunities to learn directly from professionals what it is like to be a chemist.

Chemistry seminar is a 0.5 credit/semester course with grades based on attendance. Students can earn up to 4 credits, with **two of these credits** counted as "Chem. Elective A400 level." (If a student gives a presentation on his/her research or a literature project as a seminar in Chem **A493**, s/he will earn one additional credit for a maximum of 5 total.)

Grading: A deduction of half a letter grade will be assessed for each seminar/class missed during the semester.

Attendance:	40%
Service Learning Demos:	60%

Make-up seminars will be awarded for special circumstances (e.g. injury, sudden extreme illness, family emergency, attendance at a conflicting scientific talk). A physician's note is required for injury/illness. If you are going to miss a seminar and would like to have an opportunity to make up the absence or would like to attend a conflicting seminar, contact the instructor **before** the seminar to make arrangements. Make-up seminars will involve attending a formal chemistry seminar at a local institution (e.g. Tulane, Xavier, UNO) and providing a one page summary of the seminar **within one week** after the date of the make-up seminar. It is **your responsibility** to contact the instructor.

Outreach/Service Learning Component of the class

On the weeks that we do not have seminar we will do a number of activities. You will meet with the upper level chemistry students and do activities with them. You will also develop a chemistry demo with a partner and present/explain the demo to local school children.

Chemistry Demonstration/Service Learning: The main part of the service learning part of the class will be:

- 1.) deciding on a chemistry demonstration, 10 pts
- 2.) writing up a reagent list for demonstration , 10pts
- 3.) writing a short script for your demonstration. 10 pts
-List of vocabulary/definitions for your demo.
- 4.) practicing the chemistry demonstration in front of the class, 20 pts
- 5.) Giving the chemistry demonstration to a local elementary/middle school. 30pts
- 6.) Finally write up a short reflection on your project. , 10 pts
-answer a set of questions

It can be a demonstration or a hands on activity. Then we will take your demonstration out to a local elementary/middle school class in late October or November. **Participation in this activity is mandatory.**

CELL PHONES: Cell phones must be turned off. Anyone found using cell phone (or game boy) during class will be marked absent from class for the day and **we will collect your cell phone.**

Schedule: see schedule on last page of syllabus. Schedule may change during the semester. I will send out email reminders to the class.

Check your email and Blackboard for updates.

CHEMISTRY SEMINAR FOR FALL 2013

Fall 2013 Freshmen Seminar

August 26	Welcome and Announcements, Everyone “Introductions, handouts” demos! Demo lists Pictures.
September 2	Labor Day Holiday
September 9	Freshmen Turn in Demo selection, with reagent List.
September 16	Freshmen, Turn in list of vocabulary, definitions for your demo
September 23	Dr. Andy Dicks, Univ. of Toronto, “Catalysis as a focal point for Green Chemistry”, Library MultiMedia II
September 30	“student practice”
October 7	Dr. Anna Kelly, Forensic Toxicologist, state of Texas, Houston, TX “Title TBA”
October 14-15	Fall Break
October 21	“Freshmen Demo practice”
Oct. 28.	“Freshmen Demo practice”
Nov 4.	Student demos
Nov. 11	Dr. Christine Heineke, Loyola University Chemistry Dept. “Ligand Protected Gold Clusters: Structure, Reactivity and Applications”
Nov. 18	Freshmen student demos
Nov. 25	Student Capstone Presentations
Dec. 2.	Student Capstone Presentations
Dec. 6	last day of classes

All seminars will take place in Monroe 127 at 3.30 pm. **Refreshments provided.**
For more information contact:

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