CHEM 681: Graduate Literature Seminar
Fall 2013 Syllabus

Seminar Coordinators
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Divisional Coordinators

Section 601	Organic	Dr. Lei Fang
Section 602	Analytical	Dr. Emile Schweikert
Section 603	Inorganic	Dr. Oleg Ozerov
Section 604	Physical	Dr. Steven Wheeler
Section 605	Biological	Dr. David Barondeau

Class Meetings

Sections 601, 602, 605:	Mondays 4:00 - 4:50 in CHEM 2104
Sections 603, 604:	Mondays 4:00 - 4:50 in CHEM 2102

Course Objectives
The assignments in this seminar course are designed to help students learn to
1. Communicate scientific ideas orally
2. Evaluate and describe current scientific research
3. Answer questions from a scientific audience
4. Write an abstract for a scientific presentation
5. Design effective visual aids
6. Critically assess the quality of a scientific presentation

Course Assignments
A brief overview of the CHEM 681 assignments is listed below. More details on the format, objective, grading and procedures will be provided for each assignment.

<u>Selection of Seminar Topic</u>
Topics for the graduate literature seminar are chosen by students and their research advisors during the summer preceding the second year of study. Chosen topics should be current and should not be directly related to a student's research project.

<u>Seminar Abstract</u>
Abstracts are posted one week prior to the scheduled seminars. Abstracts should include the talk title, speaker's name, references for one or two research articles, a representative figure and a 150 - 200 word summary of the presentation. Abstracts should not be longer than a single page in length.

<u>Oral Presentation</u>
The seminars should be approximately 40 minutes in length. Seminar audiences include faculty and students who are enrolled in CHEM 681. All seminars will be followed by a 10 minute question and answer session.

<u>Peer Review</u>
All student audience members who are enrolled in CHEM 681 will evaluate the quality of the presented seminars. These anonymous evaluations will be presented to the seminar speaker.

Course Grades
Students enrolled in CHEM 681 receive a grade of satisfactory (S) or unsatisfactory (U). Second year students are graded according to the quality of their abstract, their oral presentation and participation via the peer review process in the seminar course. First year students are graded according to their participation via the peer review process in the seminar course. Detailed grading rubrics and a description of the peer review process will be distributed.

Attendance Policy
Seminar presenters are expected to present on the day that they are scheduled to speak. Make-up seminars will only be granted to students with university excused absences (http://student-rules.tamu.edu/rule07). A major component of this course is the peer review of oral presentations. Attendance by all enrolled students is therefore required except as allowed by the University rules on excused absences. Students with unexcused absences will not receive credit for assignments completed during their absences. Students with excused absences should notify the Graduate Office within the time frame outlined in the University rules on excused absences. Each week all students will be expected to sign-in when they arrive in class.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Policy Statement
CHEM 681 operates in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, the legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. Students with disabilities requiring accommodations should contact a CHEM 681 coordinator and the Department of Student Life, Services for Students with Disabilities.

Aggie Honor Code Policy
 "An Aggie does not lie, cheat or steal, or tolerate those who do."
Upon accepting admission to Texas A&M University, a student immediately assumes a commitment to uphold the Honor Code, to accept responsibility for learning, and to follow the philosophy and rules of the Honor System. Students will be required to state their commitment on examinations, research papers, and other academic work. Ignorance of the rules does not exclude any member of the TAMU community from the requirements or the processes of the Honor System. Additional information about the Aggie Honor Code can be found at: http://www.tamu.edu/aggiehonor/. The consequences for plagiarism on any assignment associated with CHEM 681 will result in an unsatisfactory grade for the course.

Seminar Schedule

Date	Room	Speaker	Div. Coordinators	Research Advisor
Aug. 26	2102	Course Introduction		
Sep. 2	2102	Chelsea Mandell	Ozerov/Wheeler	Ozerov
	2104	Alexander Estrada	Fang, Schweikert, Barondeau	Gladysz/Bluemel
Sep. 9	2102	Shinhye Ahn	Ozerov/Wheeler	Bluemel
	2104	Michael Moore	Fang, Schweikert, Barondeau	Lindahl
Sep. 16	2102	Joseph Baker	Ozerov/Wheeler	Bluemel
	2104	Chih-Gang Chao	Fang, Schweikert, Barondeau	Bergbreiter
Sep. 23	2102	Christopher Pell	Ozerov/Wheeler	Ozerov
	2104	Kelly Servage	Fang, Schweikert, Barondeau	Russell
Sep. 30	2102	Anna DeLaRosa	Ozerov/Wheeler	Gabbai
	2104	Sheng Geng	Fang, Schweikert, Barondeau	Schweikert
Oct. 7	2102	Srobona Sen	Ozerov/Wheeler	Gabbai
	2104	Zhengyang Jiang	Fang, Schweikert, Barondeau	Burgess
Oct. 14	2102	Wei-Chun Shih	Ozerov/Wheeler	Ozerov
	2104	Vangmayee Sharma	Fang, Schweikert, Barondeau	Liu
Oct. 21	2102	Shengda Ding	Ozerov/Wheeler	M. Darensbourg/Hall
	2104	Sasha Chihak	Fang, Schweikert, Barondeau	Liu
Oct. 28	2102	Jihye Park	Ozerov/Wheeler	Zhou
	2104	Rajat Maji	Fang, Schweikert, Barondeau	Burgess
Nov. 4	2102			
	2104	Xun He	Fang, Schweikert, Barondeau	Wooley
Nov. 11	2102	Yanyan Wang	Ozerov/Wheeler	D. Darensbourg
	2104			
Nov. 18	2102	Yitong Dong	Wheeler, Schweikert	Son
	2104	Pokhroj Ghosh	Ozerov, Barondeau, Fang	M. Darensbourg
Nov. 25	2102	Hao Li	Ozerov/Wheeler	Zhou
	2104	Hai Wang	Fang, Schweikert, Barondeau	Wooley