

CHEMISTRY SEMINAR

CH 490

Spring 2002

Bülent Terem

Course Objectives:

This course is aimed to function as a "navigational aid" to help chemistry students who wish to go beyond the textbook content in their search for current chemical information. At the end of the semester the students are expected to accomplish the following:

- I. Gain familiarity with a number of chemical **journals** highly regarded within the international chemical community.
- II. Develop skills to carry out literature searches using conventional methods, such as Chemical **Abstracts**, as well as online methods.
- III. Complete a literature search on a chosen **topic**.
- IV. Develop skills to give an oral presentation.
- V. **Learn** how to use a number of visual aids such as MS Power Point, Chem Draw.
- VI. Give a 40 minute oral presentation in front of a group of **peers** and faculty members on a chosen topic.

Evaluation and Grading:

In order to pass the course each student is required to complete the literature search assignment on his/her chosen topic and present a seminar on a different but chosen topic. The seminar will be evaluated by the instructor as well as the audience present. The course grade is based on class participation (15%), assignments (35%), and the final oral presentation (50%).

Course Outline:

Week 1	A discussion of primary, secondary, and tertiary sources in chemical literature
Week 2	A survey of commonly referred chemical journals
Week 3	Primary sources available on Chaminade campus: from individual faculty and Sullivan Library
Week 4	American Chemical Society URL Sites; accessing primary sources online
Week 5	Online information about chemicals: structural, physical, chemical, biomedical properties
Week 6	Discussion of seminar topics
Week 7	Visit to Hamilton Library (third floor)
Week 8	Chemical Abstracts: Cumulative Index Volumes;
Week 9	Literature Search
Week 10	Basic Principles of Chemical Presentations... Literature Search Assignments due
Week 11	<i>Spring Break</i>
Week 12	Use of visual aids in presentations... Seminar outlines due
Week 13	Trial runs for presentations... Power Point slides
Week 14	Trial runs for presentations: "Dress Rehearsals"; abstracts due... Difference between oral and written presentations
Week 15	Presentations
Week 16	Evaluations of presentations... Written "Proceedings" due