

Inorganic Chemistry Seminar
Chemistry 776-002
Spring 2012
Fridays, 12:00 p.m., CP-137

Instructor:

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Office hours:

TR 9:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Course Description:

Reports and discussions on recent research and current literature. Required of all graduate students. May be repeated for a total of eight credits. (1 credit hour)

Grading:

Students taking CHE 776 for a grade will be evaluated mainly on the basis of a seminar on a topic from the recent chemical literature. The Inorganic Chemistry faculty will evaluate student seminars. Criteria for evaluation will include selection of topic, literature coverage, quality of the abstract, visual aids and presentation, and observance of proper format and deadlines. Student comments on seminars will be solicited by means of a brief evaluation sheet. Student comments will be considered in the seminar grade and will be transmitted *anonymously* to the presenter. Each presenter must schedule a brief discussion of his or her seminar with the instructor during the week following the seminar. Plus/minus grading is not used in this course.

Abstract = 10%

Seminar = 75%

Speaker introduction = 5%

Class participation, including attendance and evaluation forms = 10%

Course Schedule:

A course schedule including the topics or titles of student seminars will be distributed after all topics are approved. Seminar notices will be included in electronic **Chem News**. The schedule and student abstracts will be distributed by email to students registered for CHE 776-002, faculty and postdocs in the inorganic chemistry division, and anyone else interested, as well as posted on the course website, http://www.chem.uky.edu/research/guiton/che776_S12.php.

Student seminars:

Speaker introduction. Each student registered for credit will provide a brief introduction for another student's seminar. Obtain background information such as the pronunciation of the speaker's name and seminar title, hometown, academic background, research group and another other pertinent interests, from the speaker prior to the seminar. The introduction should be less than a minute long. Keep it professional – no inside jokes or giggling.

Content. Student seminars must provide a good overview of a contemporary topic in inorganic or organometallic chemistry. **Topics are due to the instructor in writing by January 27.**

Although topics can be modified (usually narrowed) as the seminar is prepared, significant changes must be cleared with the instructor. Seminars must draw information from articles in the **primary** chemical literature, i. e., original research articles about inorganic chemistry. Although review articles can be used for background, **seminars must not merely summarize a published review article**. Computer literature searches can be run with SciFinder, Web of Science and other tools. Contact the Chemistry-Physics library for assistance. An exact title, which will be distributed *via* email in **Chem News**, must be turned in to the instructor at or before the CHE 776 meeting two weeks before the date of the seminar.

Abstract. The presenter must prepare a one-page abstract prior to the seminar. Abstract instructions and format are described at the end of this syllabus. Although most students have an adequate personal computer, additional resources including Microsoft Word and ChemDraw are available in UK computer labs or in individual research groups. The abstract in Microsoft Word, rtf or pdf format must be emailed or delivered on electronic media to the instructor for approval by 12:00 noon on the Monday preceding the seminar. There is no penalty for early submission! If changes are needed, they must be made by 12:00 noon on the Wednesday preceding the seminar. The abstract will be posted on the on-line course web site, and circulated electronically to the class members and the Inorganic Chemistry Division. Speakers are encouraged to bring a few paper copies of their abstract to the seminar.

Presentation. Seminars must be 30 to 45 minutes long. PowerPoint or a similar computer-based presentation is required, using the LCD projector in CP-137. Either the provided Windows computer or your own computer can be used with the projector. A key to the can should be borrowed in advance from the chemistry office (CP-125) to check for computer or projection problems. Ed Duhr (CP-133) or I can help you to trouble-shoot. As far as I know, neither an overhead projector nor a slide projector is available in CP-137. If you need photocopied materials, please submit them to Justin Atkinson in CP-117 by 12:00 noon on the Wednesday before your seminar. Take care to ensure legibility. Use font sizes of 18 point or larger. For figures from a published paper, download, cut/paste or scan at a high enough resolution (at least 150 dpi) that it is legible when projected. Scanned or cut/pasted blocks of text or tables are rarely suitable as visual aids. Use the blackboard as needed to explain or answer questions. Cite the source of any figure or table from the literature.

Feedback. As soon as possible after a seminar, the instructor will provide an *anonymous* summary of student and instructor comments to the speaker. After reviewing them, set up a brief conference with the instructor, during office hours or by appointment, *before* the following class meeting.

Literature Highlights:

All registered students, audit or graded, are expected to participate fully in Literature Highlights. Each student must prepare a *ca.* 10-minute talk on an article from the recent (2008-2012) inorganic chemistry literature. **A Powerpoint, Keynote (or similar) presentation is required for all literature highlights.** Though shorter than the seminar this should be structured in the same way. These presentations should comprise 5-10 slides, and clearly outline the background/context of the paper, the current state of the art (at point of publication), what the authors did, how the data were obtained, and why their work was significant. Do not choose a

paper straight out of your own research project. Journals with important current results in inorganic and organometallic chemistry include *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, *Inorg. Chem.*, *Chem. Mater.*, *Polyhedron*, *J. Chem. Soc.*, *Chem. Commun.*, *J. Chem. Soc.*, *Dalton Trans.*, *Angew. Chem. Intl. Ed. Engl.*, *J. Organomet. Chem.*, *J. Solid State Chem*, *Organometallics*, *Science*, *Nature*, *Nat. Mater.*, *Nano Lett.*, and *ACS Nano*.

Cumulative Examination review:

The writer of each Inorganic Chemistry Cumulative Examination will review it a week or two after the exam. Only students who are currently taking cumulative exams are required to attend, but everyone is welcome.

Outside speakers:

A few outside speakers may present seminars this semester, including Departmental Seminar or American Chemical Society visitors, faculty members from UK or postdoctoral associates from the Chemistry Department. When these seminars are held at our regular meeting time, attendance is required.

Absence Policy:

Evaluation sheets will be used to record your attendance at seminars. If you are registered for credit, you may miss two seminars or Literature Highlights without penalty. Each two additional, unexcused absences will lower your grade by one letter. Excused absences are defined in the UK Bulletin. Attendance at a professional meeting is considered an excused absence. Policies related to official University excused absences may be found in the *Student Rights and Responsibilities* manual. [See <http://www.uky.edu/StudentAffairs/Code/part2.html>, Section 5.2.4.2.] Please inform the instructor about excused absences as early as possible.

Please support your fellow students by showing up on time. Chronic tardiness will be treated the same as absence.

If you are registered for audit, the instructor will follow the University regulations regarding auditing a course. These regulations state that a student must attend at least 80% of the classes in the course (excluding excused absences); otherwise, a grade of "W" may be awarded.

Academic offenses:

The University of Kentucky strictly penalizes academic offenses, including plagiarism. Links to University rules are found at <http://www.uky.edu/StudentAffairs/Code/part2.html>, Sections 6.3.0–6.6.0. The Department of Chemistry considers any type of academic dishonesty a serious offense and we will respond appropriately. Plagiarism is representing the work of others as your own. Please be vigilant about writing your own abstract and presentation. Properly cite the source of information that you use from the literature or the a website. *Presenting downloaded information nearly verbatim from a website, including Wikipedia or presentations found on-line, constitutes plagiarism.* If you are uncertain about what may constitute academic dishonesty in the course, please ask the instructor.

Resources:

1. Dodd, J. S.; Solla, L.; Bérard, P. M. *The ACS style guide: effective communication of scientific information*, Third edition; Coghill, A. M.; Garson, L. R., Eds.; American Chemical Society: Washington, DC, 2006.
2. Morgan, S.; Whitener, B. *Speaking about science: a manual for creating clear presentations*; Cambridge University Press: New York, 2006.