

CHEM 4084: Senior Seminar: Spring 2007

Instructor: Dr. Partha Ray (Office: TLC 2-123, Phone: 678 839-6023, email: psray@westga.edu)

Tuesday 8:00 – 9:00 am; TLC 2105

This is a capstone course bringing together all graduating seniors. The single most important goal is to gear for the grand finale of your baccalaureate degree, consisting of a satisfactory senior thesis and a seminar based on your research. In addition, we will also focus on a number of activities designed to serve a useful purpose in the next stage of your career, be it a job, or graduate/professional school.

You are required to complete the following assignments:

(a). Based on work carried out in the last ten years, identify three chemistry professors who have made major contributions in chemistry. Summarize your findings in a report (3 pages total) that explains in simple terms the significance of their contributions. Also, list three articles by each professor that have made an impact on their chosen field. Give a 15 minute oral presentation of your findings.

OR

(b). In consultation with the instructor choose a specific research area of chemistry that interests you (unrelated to your own research), and prepare a three page summary. Give a 15 minute oral presentation of this research.

(c). Provide your c.v. and a one page cover letter for a BS/BA level job that interests you from the ones listed in a recent issue of C&E News.

(d). Submit a final copy of your senior thesis (signed by your research supervisor; BA students may submit a five page summary of a research article chosen in consultation with the instructor) and give a 20 minute oral presentation of this research to the chemistry department.

Grading: Your grade will be based on attendance and in-class participation (40%) and the assignments listed above (60% total; 20% each).

Office Hours: MWF: 8:30-10 AM & 2:30-3:30 PM; T: 9:00 – 11:00 AM

Learning Outcomes:

1. Borden knowledge of some current areas in chemistry
2. Write resume and mock applications for chemistry jobs for BS/BA level chemists
3. Make written and oral presentations of new and current research in chemistry including student's own research.

Schedule

Jan 9	Go over syllabus
Jan 16	No class (prepare three page summary and presentation)
Jan 23	No class (prepare three page summary and presentation)
Jan 30	Three page summary for part (a) or (b) due 15 Minute presentation for part a or b (Ahmed, Antion, Blosser)
Feb 6	15 Minute presentation for part a or b (Erler, Foster, Frick)
Feb 13	15 Minute presentation for part a or b (Gibbs, Lanham, Leslie)
Feb 20	15 Minute presentation for part a or b (McDonald, Rhodes, Saponari)
Feb 27	15 Minute presentation for part a or b (Ribera, Shacklady)
Mar 6	No class. CV and application letter due
Mar 13	15 Minute research presentation (Ahmed, Antion, Blosser)
Mar 20	Spring Recess
March 27	15 Minute research presentation (Erler, Foster, Frick)
April 3	15 Minute research presentation to class (Gibbs, Lanham, Leslie)
April 10	15 Minute research presentation to class (McDonald, Rhodes, Saponari)
April 17	15 Minute research presentation to class (Ribera, Shacklady)
April 24	No class. Senior thesis due (approved by your supervisor)
April 27	15 Minute research presentation to Chemistry Department (1:00 – 5:00 pm)