



CHEM 4084 (Spring, 2008)

Senior Seminar

Welcome to CHEM 4084, the *Senior Seminar*.

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 or professional school. During the semester, you will complete the following assignments. Rather than set the deadlines myself, I will ask for your input before we together arrive at the schedule.

The assignments are:

- (a).** Pick any area of chemistry. Based on the work carried out in the past decade, identify three professors or industrial professionals who have made major contributions in this area. Summarize your findings in a report (3 -5 pages) that explains in simple terms (understandable by an average junior majoring in chemistry) what these contributions are. Also, provide references of five articles by each individual that have made an impact on the chosen field.
- (b).** Pick any one individual from part (a). Describe his/her work in a 2-3 page report comprehensible to an average junior majoring in chemistry. In addition, make a 20 minute presentation before your peers, preferably using the program PowerPoint.
- (c).** Prepare a resume and a cover letter, appropriate for either an academic or an industrial job.

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