

CHEM 4084: Senior Seminar
Spring 2018
Friday, 12:20-1:10pm; TLC 2134

Instructor: Dr. Megumi Fujita

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Office Hours: M9-1, T12-3, F9-12 or by appointment.

Course description

This is a capstone course for senior chemistry majors who are expected to write a senior thesis based on their faculty-directed research projects AND to graduate in Spring 2018, Summer 2018, or Fall 2018. The focus of the class is to integrate your chemistry learning in a larger, societal context, prepare yourself for careers, write a senior thesis using proper scientific writing format and quality, and give a senior research presentation. You will also take an Exit Exam to test your integrated knowledge of chemistry.

*Note: if you are not graduating this semester (Spring 2018), you will receive a grade of Incomplete (I). You will still write the Introduction and part of the senior thesis during the semester. In the following semester, you will complete the rest of the senior thesis and give a presentation to the department to receive the final grade.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Write a quality senior thesis with appropriate scientific writing format and quality
2. Deepen your understanding of your senior thesis project through literature search
3. Clearly communicate your senior thesis project orally through a senior thesis presentation
4. Reflect on your learning of chemistry and integrate it in a larger or societal context
5. Research important chemistry research advances
6. Research career options (industry, graduate schools etc)
7. Write a resume and mock applications for a real chemistry job; practice interview

Grading: Your grade (S/U) will be based on attendance, in-class participation and completion of the assignments listed above.

Tentative Schedule (Subject to change)

	Theme
Jan 12	Syllabus, senior thesis instruction
Jan 19	Chemistry in a large context, mini-presentation and discussion (1)
Jan 26	Career Services presentation (TLC2105)
Feb 2	Chemistry in a large context, mini-presentation and discussion (2)
Feb 9	Resume, Senior thesis brainstorming
Feb 16	Senior thesis, literature collection & abstract draft peer review
Feb 23	Senior thesis, INTRODUCTION, peer review
Mar 2	**Exit Exam (12:20-2:20)**Note the extended time
Mar 9	Senior thesis, EXPERIMENTAL, peer review
Mar 16	Senior thesis, RESULTS, peer review (After this, give all senior thesis portions to your research supervisor for his/her feedback)
Mar 23	No class (spring break)
Mar 30	Senior thesis, RESULTS & DISCUSSION, peer review
April 6	No class (make up for the Exit Exam)
April 13	Senior thesis INTEGRATED draft due (to your supervisor) Work with your supervisor to finalize your senior thesis by May 4
April 20	Practice powerpoint presentation, Senior thesis revision due
April 27	Thesis presentation to the Chemistry Department
May 4	Senior thesis final deadline (with CHEM4083 Form signed by your supervisor)