

Chemistry 297 – Introduction to Research

Fall 2015, MF 2:00-2:50am (SL102)

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Office hours:

{ Office hours subject to change, check web page }

Required Material:

None...

CHEM 297 Introduction to Research (1) Introduction to Research will present an overview of the research being conducted in the Department and introduce students to some broader topics in chemical research. Students will also gain experience with searching and reading the chemical literature, review safety considerations in the research lab, and discuss instrumentation available in the Department.

Grading:

Grades for CHEM 297 will be based upon a number of assignments/tasks related to the research topics we address in class. Tentative grade assignments are: A = 100-90%, B = 89-80%, C = 79-70%, D = 69-60%. These cutoffs *may* be lowered, but will not be raised. A tentative list of assignments includes:

1. Literature Searching with SciFinder – Register for SciFinder and perform a substructure search for an organic molecule that has at least 8 carbon atoms. Info is available online.
2. Faculty Interviews (2) – One of the purposes of CHEM 297 is to introduce you to faculty research opportunities. You will talk to (at least) 2 faculty about their research and provide a summary. Info is online.
3. Seminar Evaluations – Communicating research is a critical part of the research process. We will have at least 1 seminar during the regularly scheduled class meeting time. You will provide a summary of the seminar.
4. Technique Report – You will choose a lab technique and write a 1-2 page summary report on the technique. You may “claim” your technique whenever you like, only 1 person per technique.
5. Instrument Report – You will choose an instrument (or instrumental method) and write a 1-2 page summary report on the instrument. You may “claim” your instrument whenever you like, only 1 person per instrument.

Topics:

The topics we cover will depend upon interests and current events, but will include: current faculty research interests, safety (experimental setup/design, fire, equipment, chemical hazards, etc), use of laboratory notebooks, reading and using the chemical literature, research ethics

Academic Honesty

Cheating will not be tolerated and will be reported to all relevant offices. For a full description of the MSUM Academic Honesty Policy, please see the Student Handbook.

{ <http://www.mnstate.edu/sthandbook/POLICY/index.htm> }

Disability Access Statement: Students with disabilities who believe they may need an accommodation in this class are encouraged to contact Greg Toutges, Director of Disability Services at 477-4318 (Voice) or 1-800-627-3529 (MRS/TTY), Flora Frick 154 as soon as possible to ensure that accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion.”