

**Chemistry 4800
Advanced Seminar
Fall 2019**

Instructors:	Dr. Stephanie A. Myers	<i>and</i>	Dr. Brian Agee
Office Hours:	MWF 10:15-11:00 am; T 11:30 am - 1 pm		MF 8-8:50 am; W 10-10:50 am & 3-3:50 pm
Office Location:	SCI C3008		SCI E1031
Office Phone:	706-667-4514		706-721-8773
email:	stephanie.myers@augusta.edu		bagee@augusta.edu

Course website: <http://spots.augusta.edu/smyers1/Chemistry4950/AdvancedSeminarWelcome.htm>

Objective: To practice communication skills as they are practiced by the chemical profession.

Materials: *The Craft of Scientific Presentations* by Michael Alley (recommended)

Overall theme: As students who are completing undergraduate research should be taking CHEM 4993, everyone in this class will be doing a literature project. To simplify the content, we will be using a general theme. However, each student is required to have an original chemistry-oriented thesis (topic) within the theme. Students working on the Bachelor of Arts (BA) in chemistry are required to have a thesis that relates to their secondary area (e.g., minor or other major).

The theme for 2019 will be opioids. For an introduction to opioids and some starting places for your thesis, you can refer to resources on Rainer Glaser's webpage: https://faculty.missouri.edu/~glaserr/RG_T_SP18.html

Grading:

Oral presentation: You will give a 12 – 15 minute presentation with appropriate visual aids on the approved literature (opioid chemistry!) topic. The presentation itself will be worth 125 points. Rubric available on the course website. Students will be required to review (and give constructive criticism) on at least one other student's practice talk. Students will be required to give at least two practice talks (on different days) and turn in reviews that others did of these talks. Students MUST have reviews for at least two different dates. Reviews must be turned in before the presentation, late reviews will not be accepted.

Abstract: You will write a 100 – 250 word abstract (double-spaced) describing your presentation. Rubric will be on the course website. Details will be discussed in class. This is worth 75 points.

Preparation: There will be series of assignments, both written and oral, to help prepare for the presentations and practice related communication skills. Each assignment (there will be about 10) will be worth 5 – 10 points.

Attendance: Participation is a vital part of this class. Therefore students earn 3 points for each day they attend, losing 1 point for each 3 minutes they are late. (e.g., 0 – 3 minutes late = 2 pts, 3 – 6 minutes late = 1pt, later than that is zero points.)

Seminars: The best way to learn to give a presentation is to see it done. You must attend at least one scientific seminar before October 7 and grade them according to the oral rubric. (10 points) This is considered one of your preparation assignments. Appropriate seminars will be announced in class. If you are attending something else you think will qualify, ask the instructors to use that. You will likely get permission.

Your grade will be based on the percentage of points earned out of those possible: with 90% or greater an A; 89-80% a B; 79-70% a C; 69-60% a D; and less than 60% an F.

Attendance: You are expected to attend all classes. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to find out what material was covered and what announcements were made, and make arrangements to do a make-up assignment if needed. Any student more than 10 minutes late for a lecture will be considered absent.

Absence from 2 lectures is considered cause to drop a student from this course.

Note: The course instructor reserves the right to make changes to the course syllabus and schedule with reasonable notice to the students. The most up-to-date syllabus will be posted on the course website.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

1. Students will be able to present a scientific talk using conventions appropriate to chemistry.
2. Students will synthesize information from a variety of sources including research articles
3. Students will be able to write an abstract appropriate for a scientific presentation