

**Cedar Crest College**  
**Chemistry 352: Chemistry Seminar**  
**Spring 2009**

Dr. Lawrence T. Sein, Jr.

Office hours: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 10 am – 11 pm, Miller 2

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Class Meeting Time/Place: Thursday 4:15 PM – 5:30 PM in Miller 33

**Course objective:** to provide experiences in the oral presentation of chemistry, and the attendant writing/literature research skills.

**Course outcome:** Students will attain proficiency in presenting material, answering impromptu questions about chemistry, and summarizing a project in written form.

**Course assessment:** The instructor will grade each students abstract, presentation, and technical report.

**Description of Requirements:**

Students will deliver a 25 minute PowerPoint presentation based on one of the following:

- 1.) an independent research project (CHE 391/392)
- 2.) an internship or industrial experience

A question/answer session will follow the presentation. A written summary report (10+ pages) with appropriate figures (diagrams, equations, etc.) is required. The report will be due 23 April 2009 at 9 AM, with *no* exceptions for *any* reason, up to and including *death*. An abstract of the presentation is required; it must be distributed to all course participants six (6) days prior to the presentation (*i.e.*, the Friday before your presentation). This includes students and faculty, as well as posting the abstract on the department bulletin board.

**Grading:**

Presentation: 60%

Final written report: 30%

Abstract: 10%

The grading for each item will be based upon rubric distributed to the students, and available on my website.

**Abstract:**

The abstract should not exceed 300 words and should be a concise summary of the project.

**Final written report:**

- 1.) The report must be typed and be doubled-spaced, with pages numbered.
- 2.) The report must be a *minimum* of 10 pages, not including the diagrams, graphs, etc.
- 3.) Chemical structures and equations are best placed within the text of the report. More complex figures, graphs, flow charts, etc. are best placed at the end of the report in an appendix. Figures must be labeled at the bottom of the figure, and tables labeled at the top. Each must be numbered consecutively.
- 4.) References must be in the exact format for literature citations. All references must be cited as per the *Journal of Forensic Science* for forensics students, and the *Journal of the American Chemical Society* for all others.

- 5.) All grammar and spelling must be perfect. Absolute neatness is required. Any paper deficient in literature citations, grammar, spelling, or neatness will be graded poorly.
- 6.) Each report *must* contain at least three (3) references less than three (3) years old — *i.e.*, from 2006 – 2009.
- 7.) The report will be graded by the student's research advisor.

**Typical order of topics for the presentation:**

- 1.) Title of paper/presentation.
- 2.) Introduction and background: provide a brief summary of previous work completed in the area and the importance of the selected topic.
- 3.) Work completed (results, findings, etc.). Equations and structures belong here, along with graphs, charts or other useful items.
- 4.) Conclusions and future work planned (if any).
- 5.) Acknowledgements for support and assistance.
- 6.) Question and answer period. The ability of the student to answer relevant questions about chemistry will bear heavily on the student's final grade.

**The presentation:** 20 – 25 minutes, followed by questions; electronic format (no overheads). The student *must* burn a copy of the presentation onto a CD and copy the presentation to her H: drive. A schedule of all presentations will be established no later than February 8. Selection of topics should begin early, and all topics must be approved. All students in the course *must* attend all of the presentations. For each unexcused absence beyond the first, one full grade will be deducted from the student's grade. The student is required to be properly attired in professional dress for her presentation.

**Schedule of events:**

- 1/22 *Introduction*
- 1/29 *Class*
- 2/5 *Class*
- 2/12 *Class*
- 2/19 *Class*
- 2/26 *Student Presentations*
- 3/5 *Student Presentations*
- 3/12 ***Spring Break – No Class***
- 3/19 *Student Presentations*
- 3/26 *Student Presentations*
- 4/2 *Student Presentations*
- 4/9 *Student Presentations*
- 4/14 ***Last Day to Withdraw***
- 4/16 *Student Presentations*
- 4/23 *Student Presentations*
- 4/30 *Student Presentations*