Instructor: Bradley M. Stone, Ph.D., Professor of Chemistry  
Office: DH-412A  
Office Hours: R, 1430 – 1630, or by appointment.  
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Catalog description: Presentation of chemical topics by graduate students, faculty and visitors. A maximum of 2 units may be repeated. Repeatable for credit. 0.5 Units

Prerequisites: Enrolled graduate student or instructor consent.

Student Learning Objectives: To increase your familiarity with current, on-going research at SJSU, and at other academic and industrial institutions.

Course Schedule: The Chemistry 285 seminars will generally be scheduled every Tuesday during the semester. A Canvas notification containing the title and abstract of the next 285 seminar will be posted as soon as possible before the scheduled seminar. Any changes in the seminar schedule will be posted on the hallway bulletin board opposite the Chemistry Department office (DH 518), and/or posted on Canvas, if possible.

Attendance: A sign-up sheet will be available at the beginning and end of each class period, in the front of the lecture room. You must print and sign your name on this sheet. It is your responsibility to insure that you have signed this. You are required to attend all lectures unless you have an excused absence that must be agreed to in advance by the instructor. As a courtesy to the speaker, please plan to arrive on time for the start of the seminar. This semester, I am requiring all enrolled students to sign a sheet both before and after the seminar. If you are late for the seminar, please enter from the back of the room, and try to be as unobtrusive as possible upon entering. Once the seminar has begun, you will no longer be able to sign the sign-in sheet. You will not be able to sign the sign-out sheet until after the seminar has ended and questions have been asked. Please note that the course runs until 1745, which means that even with an hour seminar, this leaves 15 minutes for questions - which is an important part of the seminar. You are required to attend the entire seminar, including questions, and you will have an opportunity to sign out after the seminar is completed. Please note also that it is inconsiderate to the seminar speaker to leave before the seminar is completed, i.e. during the question and answer period.

Grading:  
Attendance of all seminars 70%  
Questions for seminar speakers (5) 10%  
Final project (compilation of questions) 20%

Miss no seminars – Grade of A+ (provided full credit is achieved on questions and final project).  
Miss one seminar – no loss of grade (e.g. grade of “A”).  
Miss two seminars – loss of 10 points toward final grade (e.g. lower grade from A to A-)  
Miss three seminars – loss of 20 points toward final grade (e.g. lower grade from A- to B-).  

Chemistry 285, Seminar, Spring, 2017, Prof. Brad Stone
Note attendance at each seminar is taken before and after the class, so arriving late or leaving early will each result in missing “one half” of seminar.

There may be some opportunities to attend Departmental seminars on Thursdays at 1630 (or possibly at other times) in the Department, which can be counted towards your attendance in Chem 285 (e.g. if you miss a seminar on Tuesday, attendance at a Thursday seminar will make that up). Note: there are 2 regular Chem 285 seminars already scheduled for Thursdays this semester, on 3/2 and 3/9; so please try to plan accordingly.

Questions for Speakers: This semester, I am asking students in the course to compile a list of questions for the seminar speakers. You should a) come up with 3 questions for each speaker, and b) ask a minimum of 5 questions during the question and answer period following the talk during the course of the semester. The list of questions for each speaker should be compiled into a document that will be submitted at the end of the semester.

Speakers: The presenters for this course will be a mixture of SJSU faculty and outside speakers from industry and academia, as well as M.S. students who are giving their final seminars. You will generally be notified of the seminar topics a week before each talk. It is your responsibility to make sure you know if and when classes are cancelled or re-scheduled. I will try to update the web page and/or send email notification of any changes from the announced schedule.

Special Note: It is quite possible that some weeks we will not have a seminar scheduled. It is your responsibility to be aware of scheduled changes, and your attendance is mandatory. Changes will be posted on Canvas as noted above.

Academic Integrity

Your own commitment to learning, as evidenced by your enrollment at San José State University, and the University's Academic Integrity Policy requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the Office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The policy on academic integrity can be found at [http://sa.sjsu.edu/student_conduct](http://sa.sjsu.edu/student_conduct).

No form of cheating, copying, or other unfair advantage will be tolerated, and will be dealt with severely. A first infraction will result in 0 (zero) points for that experiment or exam. A second will result in an automatic grade of "F" for the course. The underlying principle will be fairness to all students in the course. In particular, copying or plagiarism (the excessive use of someone else's words, even if acknowledged, see the section from the Academic Senate below) is considered a serious offense, especially with regard to the formal lab reports. Note that simply "re-ordering" words from another source does not constitute an original paper. You must use your own words and analysis in these reports. The "Policy on Academic Dishonesty" will be used as the guideline should any problems arise. You can see this policy and related information in the SJSU General Catalog and/or online at [www2.sjsu.edu/senate/plagiarismpolicies.htm](http://www2.sjsu.edu/senate/plagiarismpolicies.htm).

Additionally, when you work on and turn in a report, it is expected that the work is your own only. While you may get general advice from your classmates and faculty members, you may not ask others to analyze your data for you. This includes faculty members at SJSU or other colleges/universities, trained professionals in the field, or any commercial services.

Any case of academic dishonesty may be reported to a file in the Chemistry Department Office and to the SJSU Judicial Coordinator.
From the SJSU Academic Senate Resolution F88-10

1.2 PLAGIARISM:

At SJSU plagiarism is the act of representing the work of another as one's own (without giving appropriate credit) regardless of how that work was obtained, and submitting it to fulfill academic requirements. Plagiarism at SJSU includes but is not limited to:

1.2.1 The act of incorporating the ideas, words, sentences, paragraphs, or parts thereof, or the specific substance of another's work, without giving appropriate credit,* and representing the product as one's own work; and 1.2.2 Representing another's artistic/scholarly works such as musical compositions, computer programs, photographs, paintings, drawings, sculptures or similar works as one's own.

(*or using an excessive amount of another's work, even if credit is given)

BE SURE YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT PLAGIARISM MEANS. IF NOT, ASK!!

Emergencies and Building Evacuations
If you hear a continuously sounding alarm, or are told to evacuate the building by an Emergency Coordinator, walk quickly to the nearest exit (out the door and turn left to exit the Science Building). Take your personal belongings as you may not be allowed to return. Follow the instructions of the Emergency Coordinators. Be quiet so you can hear instructions. Once outside, move away from the building. Do not return to the building unless the Police or the Emergency Coordinator announce that this is permissible.

Disabled Students
If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with DRC to establish a record of their disability.

Chemical Safety
Chem 120S is a required course for all chemistry majors and minors and a prerequisite for all Chem 180/298 research.