

San José State University
Department of Chemistry
Seminar, Chem 285, Spring 2020

Course and Contact Information

Instructors:	Prof Nicholas Esker	Prof. Madalyn Radlauer	Prof. Chester Simocko
Office Location:	DH 501	DH 517	DH 001
Telephone:	(408) 924-4950	(408) 924-5482	(408) 924-5496
Email:	nicholas.esker@sjsu.edu	madalyn.radlauer@sjsu.edu	chester.simocko@sjsu.edu
Office Hours:	Wed 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm Fri 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm or by appointment	Tues 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm Wed 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm or by appointment	Tues 11:00 am – 12:00 pm Wed 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm or by appointment
Class Days/Time:	Tues 4:30 pm – 5:45 pm		
Classroom:	DH 250		

Course Website

Course materials can be found on Canvas (<https://sjsu.instructure.com/>). The [seminar schedule](#) will also be posted on the Chemistry Department website at <http://www.sjsu.edu/chemistry/Seminars/index.html>. You are responsible for regularly checking Canvas to learn any updates or changes in the schedule.

Course Description (from the course catalog)

Presentation of chemical topics by graduate students, faculty, and guests. A maximum of 3 units may be repeated. Repeatable for credit. 0.5 units.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Discuss the current, on-going research presented by our speakers.
2. Ask questions based on the subject matter of a scientific presentation.
3. Reflect on the presentation techniques used by speakers and determine whether to apply these techniques in their own presentations.
4. Articulate career opportunities and paths based on what they have learned from the experiences presented by our speakers.

Required Texts/Readings

Students are required to read the abstract for each talk prior to class. These will be posted to the “Flyers” folder on Canvas.

Course Requirements and Assignments

Signing in

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 your name on this sheet at both the start and the end of class. It is your responsibility to make certain that you have signed in and out. 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 question and answer portion of the seminar.

Attendance

You are required to attend all seminars unless you have an excused absence that must be agreed to *in advance* by one of the instructors. As a courtesy to the speaker, please plan to arrive on time for the start of 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. Please note that the course runs until 5:45 pm, 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. It is inconsiderate to the seminar speaker to leave before the seminar is completed, even during the question and answer period.

Questions for Speakers

You are required to compile a list of 3 questions for each seminar speaker. These questions should be original questions that you devise on your own. You will need to submit each set of questions to Canvas within 48 hours of the seminar (generally by Thursday at 6 pm). Questions that are submitted late will lose 25% per day (weekend days are included!) so that questions submitted more than 3 days late (after 6 pm on Sunday) will receive no credit. To best construct questions that receive full credit, attendance at the entire seminar is required.

You are also required to ask a *minimum* of 5 questions during the question and answer periods following the talks over the course of the semester. You are encouraged to ask more than the minimum over the course of the semester. Only 1 asked question will be counted for each seminar. At least 3 of these questions must be asked during non-Master's student talks.

Assignments	Points
Question list for each seminar	60
Questions asked	20
Final Project: Seminar reflection	20
Total	100

Speakers

There are 14 class periods for this course including a Welcome Reception (1/28/2020). The scheduled presenters are a mixture of SJSU master's students and faculty as well as outside speakers from industry and academia. The seminar titles will be updated shortly and abstracts for the talks will generally be posted a week before each talk.

Special Notes and Makeup Policy

The seminar schedule may be changed. In such an instance, the changes will be posted on Canvas. It is your responsibility to be aware of scheduled changes.

If you miss any of the scheduled seminars or if you forget to submit your questions for a seminar that you attended, you can make-up the seminar by attending an approved alternative and submitting questions. You can attend an extra seminar earlier in the semester and "bank" it toward any later absence.

So far, we do not have extra seminars scheduled for this semester. If extra seminars are scheduled, we will make a Canvas announcement and add them to the schedule online. We recommend that you attend and extra seminars even if you do not need to make up for any absences. For any extra seminar that is part of our series, we will count submitted questions for extra credit if you do not have absences that need to be made up. For these extra

credit points, you must be present for the entire seminar and submit the questions on time (within 48 hours of the end of the seminar).

SJSU's Credit Hour Requirement

“Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally three hours per unit per week) for instruction, preparation/studying, or course related activities, including but not limited to internships, labs, and clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.”

Final Examination or Evaluation: Seminar reflection

The culminating experience for the course will be a concise reflection (2 pages, double spaced) based on your observations from the seminars you have attended over the semester. A detailed prompt and rubric will be posted to Canvas. The reflection must be submitted to Canvas by 5/13/20, 5 pm (the assigned final exam date and time).

Grading Information

Determination of Grades

Points will be distributed as described in Course Requirements and Assignments above. The course grade will be determined from the resulting point total as follows:

<u>Point Total</u>	<u>Final Course Grade</u>
97-100	A+
93-96.9	A
90-92.9	A-
87-89.9	B+
83-86.9	B
80-82.9	B-
77-79.9	C+
73-76.9	C
70-72.9	C-
67-69.9	D+
63-66.9	D
60-62.9	D-
< 60	F

Classroom Protocol

Be on time to seminar and stay the entire time from 4:30 to 5:45 pm as a courtesy to the speaker and your colleagues. Cell phones and other devices should be turned off for class, unless they are being used to take notes. Please engage with the seminar as this way you will gain the most from it and be able to pose good questions.

Email policy

We each receive a lot of emails, so to be sure that we see your email, all CHEM 285 emails should have CHEM 285 in the subject line and should be addressed to both instructors. We will do our best to respond to class-related emails within 1 business day of receiving them, however, keep in mind that this may not always be possible, especially during high volume times (around exams).

University Policies

Per [University Policy S16-9](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf) (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf>), relevant information to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, dropping and adding, consent for recording of class, etc. is available on Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs' [Syllabus Information web page](http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/>".

Safe and Respectful Community

We hope that the classroom and laboratory will serve as an environment that will promote learning and the development of new ideas, as well as be a safe and respectful community. Behavior that interferes with the normal academic function in a classroom or lab is unacceptable. Students exhibiting this behavior will be asked to leave the class.

Examples of such behavior include

1. Persistent interruptions or using disrespectful adjectives in response to the comments of others.
2. The use of obscene or profane language.
3. Yelling at classmates and/or faculty.
4. Persistent and disruptive late arrival to or early departure from class without permission.
5. Physical threats, harassing/bullying behavior, or personal insults (even when stated in a joking manner).
6. Use of personal electronic devices such as pagers, cell phones, PDAs in class, unless it is part of the instructional activity.

Seminar, Chem 285, Spring 2020, Course Schedule

Tentative Seminar Schedule

See Canvas or the Chemistry website for the current schedule.

Week	Date	Speaker
2	1/28/2020	Introduction to Course, Welcome Reception
3	2/4/2020	TBA
4	2/11/2020	Prof. Viktor Nemykin, University of Manitoba
5	2/18/2020	TBA
6	2/25/2020	TBA
7	3/3/2020	TBA
8	3/10/2020	TBA
9	3/17/2020	TBA
10	3/24/2020	Ms. Christiane Cabrerros, Master's Student, Wang laboratory
*	3/31/2020	<i>Spring Break, no seminar</i>
11	4/7/2020	TBA
12	4/14/2020	Mr. Daniel Biocini, Master's Student, Pesek laboratory
13	4/21/2020	TBA
14	4/28/2020	TBA
15	5/5/2020	Ms. Liridona Leti, Master's Student, Terrill laboratory
*	5/13/2020	<i>scheduled final exam time from 2:45 – 5:00 pm</i>