Chemistry 380 – Seminar

Spring 2010, 11:30 am Thursdays in FH-133

Instructor: Jan Florian, FH- Room 314A, jfloria@luc.edu
Teaching Assistant: Deepika Panawennage, FH-Room 101, dpanawe@luc.edu

In this course you will learn to obtain, process, and evaluate research-related information. Each week there will be a seminar or TA presentation. There will be 11 seminars and 3 presentations. The subjects of seminar talks will cover the entire range of chemistry and will be given largely by outside speakers. You must attend each seminar and use what you learned from the speaker and what you searched on the web to write a seminar report.

Your report must contain the following parts:
A: Speaker’s name and affiliation
B: Explanation of the importance and originality of the research presented in the seminar. (5 to 10 sentences)
C: Evaluation of the quality of the presentation. That is, what features of the presentation or speaker you did or did not like? Did you find the seminar interesting and easy to follow? (5 - 10 sentences)
D: Evaluation of the quality of the research generated in speaker’s lab. This evaluation should contain the following data: 1. Funding sources for the presented research (These are usually mentioned by the speaker at the very end or very beginning of his seminar). 2. Number of articles published by the speaker in the past 5 years (i.e. 2003-2008). 3. The full reference of one of these articles, which was published in a journal with the highest impact factor, and the numerical value of this impact factor. 4: Speaker’s Hirsch index.

Your reports will be due in person at the beginning of the next week seminar or TA presentation. The report will be considered acceptable if it will contain all required parts and these parts will contain correct information.

During TA presentations, your TA will cover topics of professional interest, such as how to write a good resume. She will also invite guests, for example an employment counselor. For each TA presentation you are required to submit a one-page summary at the beginning of the next week seminar.

You need to work on your reports and summaries individually. The same or very similar reports submitted by two or more students will be considered unacceptable. If you submit 14 acceptable reports you will receive an A, 13 will get you an A-, 12 will be a B+, 11 will provide a B, 10 will be a B-, 9 will be a C+, 8 will be a C, 7 will be C-, 6 will be D+, 5 will be D, and less than that will be an F. You can make-up one seminar that you missed by submitting a report (for the missed seminar) that contains only part D.

List of seminars and meetings
**Date Speaker (Host)**
January 21 – Luping Yu, University of Chicago (Ciszek)
January 28 – Luca Maragliano, University of Chicago (Olsen)
February 4 – TA
February 11 – Marvin J. Miller, University of Notre Dame (Babler)
February 18 – Thomas Stephan, University of Chicago (Schmeling)
February 25 – Kevin Rosso, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (Fitch)
March 4 – TA
March 11 –Spring break
March 18 – Joseph Hupp, Northwestern University (inorganic/organic division)
March 25 – (Becker)
April 1 – TA
April 8 – (Brown)
April 15 – Tarun B. Patel, LUMC (Ballicora)
April 22 – (Crumrine)
April 29 – (Liu)