First Year Seminar, 4:029:002  
Fall 2010, Prof. Pienta

Lecture: 1:00 – 2:15 PM Tu (8/24-10/26/2010)  E203 CB

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Instructors</th>
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<tr>
<td>Norbert J. Pienta</td>
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| Office: | W313 Chemistry Bldg. |
| Phone: | 335-1309 |
| email: | chem-pienta@uiowa.edu |
| Office Hrs: | M Tu 2:30 – 4:00 PM, or by appointment [request by email] |

Course Website:
Lecture outline, Gradebook: [http://icon.uiowa.edu](http://icon.uiowa.edu)
Reading assignments, reading material, and resources will be available on the ICON site in PDF format. Reading assignments should be completed before each class meeting. We will discuss the assigned case studies and work on activities in class.

Syllabus, Announcements
The syllabus in PDF format is available at the ICON site. Announcements and a lecture schedule also appear there.

Course Materials

Course Content and Prerequisites
Objectives: The course will demonstrate scientific and chemical principles by covering case studies related to health and everyday experiences. Typical topics will include but not necessarily be limited to... (1) Structure of matter (There are no chemicals in my organic granola!); (2) Water, in and around us (Properties and unique behavior that supports life); (3) Understanding gases (What do climbing Mt. Everest and scuba diving have in common?); (4) Energy to power our bodies and cars (What do algae and French fries have in common?); (5) Natural and synthetic drugs (Steroids—The good, the bad, and the ugly); (6) Genetic code (The molecular basis of some diseases).

Prerequisites: high school chemistry
A basic understanding of chemistry will be assumed.

Course Administration
Course business can be accomplished at the Chemistry Center, E225 CB. The hours are 8 AM -12 Noon & 1-5 PM on M-Th and 8 AM -12 Noon & 12:30-4:30 PM on Friday, and the contact person is Lin Pierce (335-1341). The following SHOULD be accomplished at the Center: drop/add forms.

Grades
The grade will be based on written assignments:
(1) A 1-page critique / commentary about 5 out of 6 of the case studies from the written material provided that were discussed in the class. These essays will be submitted via ICON. Instructor will grade these.
(2) One 3-5 page case study that would be appropriate for the class; guidance and suggested topics will be provided and multiple examples will be used during the course. Each case study will be discussed by 3-4 students in the class for relevance and clarity; the group will write some questions for the case study. The instructor will assign a grade based on his evaluation and the comments.

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<tr>
<th>graded item</th>
<th>total</th>
<th>%</th>
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<tr>
<td>1-page critique</td>
<td>5 of 6 (5@10%)</td>
<td>50</td>
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<tr>
<td>3-5 page case study</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>50</td>
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Policies and Procedures

Administrative Home of the Course
The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences is the administrative home of this course and governs such academic matters as the add/drop deadlines, the second-grade-only option, issues concerning academic fraud or academic probation, and how credits are applied for various graduation requirements. Different colleges may have different policies. Students with questions about these or other CLAS policies should speak with an academic advisor or with the staff in 120 Schaeffer Hall. Also see the CLAS Academic Handbook: http://www.clas.uiowa.edu/students/handbook/

Electronic Communication
University policy specifies that students are responsible for all official correspondences sent to their University of Iowa e-mail address (@uiowa.edu). Faculty and students should use this account for correspondences. (Operations Manual, III.15.2. Scroll down to k.11.) http://www.uiowa.edu/~our/opmanual/iii/15.htm#152

Accommodations for Disabilities
Anyone who has a disability which may require some modification of seating, testing, or other class requirements should see the instructor during office hours so that appropriate arrangements may be made. In addition, you should contact the Office of Student Disability Services, 3101 Burge Hall (335-1462) and then the Chemistry Center (E324 CB, 335-1341). See http://www.uiowa.edu/~sds/

Academic Fraud
Plagiarism and any other activities that result in a student presenting work that is not his or her own are academic fraud. Academic fraud is reported to the departmental DEO and then to the Associate Dean for Academic Programs and Services in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences who deals with academic fraud according to these guidelines: http://www.clas.uiowa.edu/students/handbook/x/#2

CLAS Final Examination Policies
Final exams may be offered only during finals week. No exams of any kind are allowed during the last week of classes. Students should not ask their instructor to reschedule a final exam since the College does not permit rescheduling of a final exam once the semester has begun. Questions should be addressed to the Associate Dean for Undergraduate Programs and Curriculum.

Making a Suggestion or a Complaint
Students with a suggestion or complaint should first visit the instructor, then the course supervisor, and then the departmental DEO. Complaints must be made within six months of the incident. http://www.clas.uiowa.edu/students/handbook/x/#5

Understanding Sexual Harassment
Sexual harassment subverts the mission of the University and threatens the well-being of students, faculty, and staff. All members of the UI community have a responsibility to uphold this mission and to contribute to a safe environment that enhances learning. Incidents of sexual harassment should be reported immediately. See the UI Comprehensive Guide on Sexual Harassment for assistance, definitions, and the full University policy. http://www.uiowa.edu/~eod/policies/sexual-harassment-guide/index.html

Reacting Safely to Severe Weather
In severe weather, class members should seek appropriate shelter immediately, leaving the classroom if necessary. The class will continue if possible when the event is over. For more information on Hawk Alert and the siren warning system, visit the Public Safety web site: http://www.uiowa.edu/~pubsfty/intlinks.htm