Chemistry 4:029:004  
First year seminar series:  
Synthetic polymers in medicine: How and why they are used  
Fall 2010

Professor: Ned B. Bowden

Class Times: Tuesday 1:00-2:15 in E264CB

Contact Info: W425 Chemistry Building  
335-1198  
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Office Hours  
My office hours are immediately after class from 2:15-3:15. I reserved this time for you and am happy to meet and discuss problems you are having. If these times do not work for you, we will set an appointment by email to meet another time.

Grading  
The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences strongly suggests the following grade distribution.  
18% A  
36% B  
39% C  
5% D  
2% F  
The grade distribution will be close to these values, but it may vary based on class performance. Plus and minus grades will be given, they are left to the discretion of the instructor at the end of the semester.

You will be graded on the four hourly exams, quizzes, and a final exam. Your final grade will be calculated as follows.

Class participation: 50%  
Presentation and discussion about presentation: 50%

Outline of class  
This course is meant to be an opportunity to learn about chemistry, biology, and medicine. We will structure the course around talking about articles, philosophy of chemistry as it relates to polymers and medicine, and “class trips” to visit labs. I will give you some papers to read then we will discuss them in class and do over any parts that were confusing.

Towards the end of the course, I want you give a presentation on some aspect of polymers in medicine. I am purposely making the topic area broad to give you a chance to focus on
something that you find interesting. You can talk about a specific polymer based therapy, a particular polymer, polymers bound to proteins that increase their stabilities, or something else that is appropriate. There are approximately 15 of you in the course and I will let you work in groups of three. What you need to do is find a topic and select at least two papers about this topic and give them to the class one week before your presentation. We’ll read the papers and then you can give a brief five to ten minute presentation and we’ll talk about what you learned. I will reserve the last two class periods for these presentations.

Cheating
Our scientific environment is maintained through the actions of its members and the trust we place in one another. Scientists are expected to remain honest in their words and actions. When this trust is broken the results are often severe and career threatening. One should not cheat on the false assumptions that 1) no one is harmed if no one is aware of the cheating or 2) it is alright to cheat if you aren’t caught. A good scientist will hold themselves to a higher standard where cheating, even if it isn’t discovered, is wrong.

With this important responsibility comes the privilege of being a member of a community that values openness and truth. As you are all scientists in training I will expect you to act accordingly and with an upright manner. Anyone caught cheating will flunk this class and will be reported to the administration.

Required Announcements

Administrative Home
The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences is the administrative home of this course and governs matters such as the add/drop deadlines, the second-grade-only option, and other related issues. Different colleges may have different policies. Questions may be addressed to 120 Schaeffer Hall, or see the CLAS Student Academic 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.)

Accommodations for Disabilities
A student seeking academic accommodations should first register with Student Disability Services and then meet privately with the course instructor to make particular arrangements. See www.uiowa.edu/~sds/ for more information.

Academic Fraud
Plagiarism and any other activities when students present work that is not their own are academic fraud. Academic fraud is a serious matter and is reported to the departmental DEO and to the Associate Dean for Undergraduate Programs and Curriculum. Instructors and DEOs decide on appropriate consequences at the departmental level while the Associate Dean enforces additional consequences at the collegiate level. See the CLAS Academic Fraud section of the Student Academic Handbook.

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. See the CLAS Student Academic Handbook.

**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.

**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.

*These CLAS policy and procedural statements have been summarized from the web pages of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and The University of Iowa Operations Manual.*