

CHEM 351 (1 hr, 2 hr, 3 hr): Independent Study

(Section 001)

Spring 2024

Course Coordinator: Dr. Jay Hanna

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Office Hours: M 3:00 – 4:30 pm

To contact me outside of these hours, please feel free to e-mail or call to make an appointment. I check my email and phone messages periodically throughout the day.

Course Description and Goals: CHEM 351 provides a faculty-mentored independent study experience in a chemistry or chemistry-related field. Specific topics are selected based on faculty mentor specialization and student interest.

The goals of this course align with *University Level Competency (ULC) #1* – “Winthrop graduates think critically and solve problems,” and *ULC #4* “Winthrop graduates communicate effectively.” They are:

- To develop and use the critical thinking and analytical reasoning skills needed to research, collect, evaluate, analyze, and interpret information gathered through scientific inquiry.
- To effectively communicate their findings through a written research paper and/or oral presentation.

Learning Objectives:

- To demonstrate an ability to work independently by working on a faculty-mentored independent study project.
- To use critical thinking and analytical reasoning skills to produce scientifically worthy work.

Course Requirements:

- **Select an independent study mentor.** Notify the course coordinator as soon as possible of your choice.
- **In consultation with your mentor, complete a course contract.** This is an individual, signed agreement between student and faculty mentor, outlining the expectations, goals, and milestones for the semester, including any required safety training (if necessary) and final presentation (see below). The specific format will be determined by the faculty mentor; an example of a laboratory work-based project can be found on the course website. *Please note that failure to satisfy the requirements of the course contract may result in a grade of “U” for the course.*
- **If you will be involved in laboratory research,** you are also required to attend a safety training session, to be given by Dr. Snyder near the beginning of the semester (dates, times, and room nos. will be announced through email). You must pass the associated safety quiz with 100% score. *Failure to attend any required safety training or pass the safety quiz will immediately revoke eligibility to conduct research and your enrollment in the research course.*
- **Devote at least 3 hours per week per academic credit hour to the project.** Per Winthrop attendance policy, you must complete at least 75% of your scheduled project time to pass this course.
- **Complete a final presentation to the department.** To be given during the CHEM 551/552 Final Presentation slot. **For Spring, 2024, that is Monday, April 29, 2023 at 9:00 am in Sims 113B.**
- **Adhere to the Winthrop Student Conduct Code as outlined in the Student Handbook:** (<http://www2.winthrop.edu/studentaffairs/handbook/StudentHandbook.pdf>)

Course Grading: The course is graded S/U. Satisfactory completion of the requirements listed in the course contract is necessary for a grade of “S.”

Students with Disabilities/Need of Accommodations for Access: Winthrop University is committed to providing access to education. If you have a condition which may adversely impact your ability to access academics and/or campus life, and you require specific accommodations to complete this course, contact the Office of Accessibility (OA) at 803-323-3290, or accessibility@winthrop.edu as early as possible to discuss your concerns. Please inform me once you have your official notice of accommodations from the Office of Accessibility.

Changes to Syllabus: Any changes to the syllabus will be communicated verbally or by e-mail.

COVID-19 Statement: Although COVID-19 has reached an endemic phase it is still important to remain vigilant as we face a recent rise in positive cases. As socially responsible members of this community, everyone is expected to engage in daily health self-monitoring, to stay home (residence hall or off-campus housing) from on-campus class, work, or activities if they begin experiencing any COVID-related symptoms.

When experiencing any COVID-related symptoms, students are expected to contact Health Services by completing the QI form in the [Patient Portal](#) and respond to the nurse who will contact them with instructions. COVID positive residential students are required to follow their QI plan for 5 days of isolation off campus so be prepared with a back-up plan as well.