

# ***CHEM 495: Senior Seminar***

(Section 001, 1 Credit Hr)

Spring, 2024

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**Professor:** Dr. Jay Hanna (Sims 313B)

**Email:** [hannaj@winthrop.edu](mailto:hannaj@winthrop.edu)

**Office Phone:** 323-4933

**Course Website:**

**Office Hours:** M 3:00 – 4:30 pm, or by appointment.

I check my email and phone messages periodically throughout the day. I will try to respond within 24 hours except on weekends, when my response may be slower.

**Class Meetings:** M 2:00 – 2:50 pm in Sims 113B.

The course schedule is posted in Blackboard

## **Course Goals:**

These goals align with *University Level Competency (ULC) #4*: Winthrop graduates communicate effectively.

- To review concepts of research and professional ethics
- To research a scientific topic using the primary literature using scientific databases such as SciFinder and PubMed
- To effectively communicate research findings through a written research paper and an oral presentation
- To assess department program effectiveness in meeting ULC #4

**Course Assignments (\* denotes a required assignment; more detailed assignment descriptions are found in Blackboard; due dates are found in the course schedule):**

***NOTE that technology issues are not a valid excuse for late, incomplete, or missed assignments. This course has a significant online component; you are expected to have working technology. Plan accordingly for upload times and troubleshooting. Should you encounter an issue with an assignment submission, you should email your instructor immediately with the assignment attached, if possible.***

1. **LinkedIn Profile\*:** Create a LinkedIn profile and connect with the Instructor. Upload the weblink to your LinkedIn profile to Blackboard by the due date on the Course Schedule. If you already have one, you may use your existing LinkedIn profile.
2. **Chemical Topic Selection\*:** Choose a chemistry-related topic that interests you. Submit your topic to the instructor (uploaded into Blackboard) of your choice by the due date on the Course Schedule.  
*NOTE: You may not duplicate a research topic from any other class (e. g. CHEM 351/551/552, CHEM 523).*
3. **Chemical Topic Initial Reference List:** Provide the instructor (uploaded into Blackboard) with an initial list of peer-reviewed references (5 minimum) you will use to develop your Chemical Topic review paper and presentation. *References must comply with ACS Guidelines (with titles).* See the assignment and Useful Links in Blackboard.
4. **Chemical Topic Review Paper Outline:** Provide the instructor (uploaded into Blackboard) with an initial outline for your Chemical Topic review paper.
5. **Chemical Topic Review Paper Draft:** Provide the instructor (uploaded into Blackboard) with an initial draft of your Chemical Topic Review Paper. Review Paper guidelines can be found in Blackboard.
6. **Chemical Topic Oral Presentation Slides Draft:** Provide the instructor (uploaded into Blackboard) with an initial draft of your Chemical Topic Oral Presentation slides. Oral Presentation guidelines can be found in Blackboard.
7. **Chemical Topic Final Oral Presentation\*:** Assignment guidelines can be found in Blackboard. Upload your final slides into Blackboard by the due date on the Course Schedule.
8. **Chemical Topic Final Review Paper\*:** Assignment guidelines can be found in Blackboard. Upload your final paper into Blackboard by the due date on the Course Schedule.

***NOTE: Each late assignment will lower your course grade by one level (e. g. B to B-). Assignments more than 24 hours late will not be accepted!***

**Final Course Grade:** *You must satisfactorily complete assignments 1, 2, 7, and 8 above, and submit them to the instructor by the due date found in the course schedule in order to pass the course (with a “D”). Your final grade will be determined by the number of additional assignments you complete, according to the following guidelines:*

**A:** “D” + 4 additional assignments

**B:** “D” + 3 additional assignments

**C:** “D” + 1 or 2 additional assignments

**D:** Complete assignments 1, 2, 7, and 8

**F:** Fail to complete assignments 1, 2, 7, and 8

**NOTE:** *If the final versions of the presentation slides and paper are not significant revisions of the drafts, no credit will be given for the drafts.*

**NOTE:** *Grade discussions will only be held in person. No grades will be communicated by phone or e-mail.*

**Class Attendance and Conduct:**

- Each unexcused absence will lower your course grade by one level (e. g. B to B-). Per Winthrop attendance policy, you must attend at least 75% of the scheduled class meetings to pass the course. ***In addition, you must attend each oral presentation class period to pass.***
- Please keep the time period open because guest speakers may be scheduled.
- Repeated ***unauthorized*** use of cell phones or other electronic devices during class will may result in you being asked to leave class. This may count as an unexcused absence, and therefore result in lowering of your grade by one level.
- Students are expected to adhere to the Winthrop Student Conduct Code as outlined in the Student Handbook: (<http://www2.winthrop.edu/studentaffairs/handbook/StudentHandbook.pdf>)

**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](mailto:accessibility@winthrop.edu). Please inform me as early as possible, once you have your official notice of accommodations from the Office of Accessibility.

**Withdrawals:** Per Winthrop University policy, any student who wishes to withdraw from the course with a grade of “N” must do so before the Course Withdrawal Deadline (*listed in the schedule*).

**Changes to Syllabus:** Any changes to the syllabus or course schedule will be announced in class and/or in the Announcements section of Blackboard.