Inorganic Chemistry Seminar
Chemistry 776-002
Fall 2004
Fridays, 2:00 p.m., CP-137

Instructor:

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Office hours: TR 9:15 – 10:45 a.m.

Course Description:

Reports and discussions on recent research and current literature. Required of all graduate students. May be repeated for a total of eight credits. (1 credit hour)

Grading:

Students taking CHE 776 for a grade will be evaluated on the basis of a seminar on a topic from the recent chemical literature. The Inorganic Chemistry faculty will evaluate student seminars. Criteria for evaluation will include selection of topic, literature coverage, quality of the abstract, visual aids and presentation, and observance of proper format and deadlines. Student comments on seminars will be solicited by means of a brief evaluation sheet. Student comments will be considered in the seminar grade and will be transmitted anonymously to the presenter. Each presenter must schedule a brief discussion of his or her seminar with the instructor during the week following the seminar. Plus/minus grading is not used in this course.

Course Schedule:

A course schedule including the topics or titles of student seminars will be distributed after all topics are approved. Seminar notices will be included in electronic Chem News. The schedule and student abstracts will be linked to the Department of Chemistry CHE 776 website at http://www.chem.uky.edu/seminars/welcome.html.

Student seminars:

Student seminars must provide a good overview of a contemporary topic in inorganic or organometallic chemistry. Topics are due to the instructor in writing by September 10, 2004. Although topics can be modified (usually narrowed) as the seminar is prepared, significant changes must be cleared with the instructor. Seminars must draw information from articles in the primary chemical literature, i.e. original research articles about inorganic chemistry. Although review articles can be used for background, seminars must not merely summarize a published review article. Computer literature searches can be run with SciFinder and other tools. Contact the Chemistry-Physics library for assistance. An exact title, which will be distributed via email in Chem News, must be turned in to the instructor at or before the CHE 776 meeting two weeks before the date of the seminar. A one-page abstract must be prepared by the presenter and
approved by the instructor by 12:00 noon on Monday preceding the seminar. An
electronic copy of the abstract in ready-to-post format (html or pdf) must be sent to the
instructor by email or posted directly to the CHE 776 website,
http://www.chem.uky.edu/courses/che776/inorganic. Instructions for html format are at
the site; pdf files can be produced by many word processors or utilities. Each abstract
must include the seminar title, presenter's name, Inorganic Seminar (CHE 776-002),
location (CP-137), meeting time, date, a brief abstract and references. The key articles
used to prepare your seminar should be cited in the text of the abstract and collected at
the end of the abstract in J. Am. Chem. Soc. format. Computer resources including
Microsoft Word, ChemDraw and ChemWindow are available in CP-148 or in individual
research groups. After approval, the abstract will be copied and distributed by the
Chemistry office staff. Seminars must be at least 30 minutes long. PowerPoint or a
similar computer-based presentation is preferred, and a LCD projector with Windows
computer can be borrowed in advance from chemistry office (CP-125) to check for
compatibility. Transparencies for an overhead projector are suitable. The chemistry office
(CP-125) will provide up to fifteen transparencies per student, either "write-on"
transparencies or your prepared pages photocopied directly onto transparencies. There is
a 35-mm slide projector available in CP-137. Regardless of medium, take care to ensure
legibility. Don't use font sizes below about 18 point. If figures are copied from published
paper, scan at high resolution (at least 200 dpi) for a computer presentation or expand on
a photocopier for transparencies. Use the blackboard as needed. Properly cite the source
of any figure or table from the literature.

Literature Highlights:

All registered students, audit or graded, are expected to participate fully in
Literature Highlights. Each student must prepare a ca. 10-minute talk on an article from
the recent (2001-2004) inorganic chemistry literature. A blackboard presentation is
usually adequate but any medium can be used for complicated figures or tables. Do not
choose a paper straight out of your own research project. Explain what the authors did,
why their work was significant, and why you thought it was interesting. Journals with
important current results in inorganic and organometallic chemistry include J. Am. Chem.

Cumulative Examination review:

The writer of each Inorganic Chemistry Cumulative Examination will review it a
week or two after the exam. Only students who are currently taking cumulative exams
must attend, but others are welcome.

Outside speakers:

A few outside speakers may present seminars this semester, including
Departmental Seminar or American Chemical Society visitors, faculty members from UK
or postdoctoral associates from the Chemistry Department. When these seminars are held at our regular meeting time, attendance is required.

**Absence Policy:**

Returned evaluation sheets will be used to record your attendance at seminars. If you are registered for credit, you may miss two seminars or Literature Highlights without penalty. Each two additional, unexcused absences lowers your grade by one letter. Excused absences are defined in the UK Bulletin. Attendance at a professional meeting is considered an excused absence. Please inform the instructor in advance.

If you are registered for audit, the instructor will follow the University regulations regarding auditing a course. These regulations state that a student must attend at least 80% of the classes in the course (excluding excused absences); otherwise, a grade of "W" may be awarded.