

Chemistry 380

Fall 2019

Course: Chemistry 380

Date: Thursday

Time: 11:30 A-12:45 P

Location: Flanner Hall 133

Textbook: None

Website: Sakai

Instructor: Prof. Miguel Ballicora

Flanner Hall 125

Email: mballic@luc.edu

TA: Adriana Lugosan

Flanner Hall 402

Email: alugosan@luc.edu

Course Title: Chemistry Seminar

Course Philosophy: Chemistry 380 is designed to provide an overview of modern chemistry and biochemistry via a sampling of speakers from outside institutions, or senior PhD students near their defense.

Office Hours: Based on appointments

Grading Outline: Your grade is primarily based on the number of *quality* post-seminar discussions you contribute. Asking the *speaker* a question allows your grade to go above a B+.

# Discussions missed	Grade	Note
0-1	A	And ask question
2	A-	And ask question
3	B+	Max grade without question
4	B	
5	B-	
6	C	
7	D	
>7	F	

Note that there are 13 seminars, so you will be allowed to miss one without any explanation required to cover any illness, accident, etc. For any other missed seminar, this must be communicated within two calendar days to the instructor and TA by e-mail; supporting documentation (e.g., doctor's note, obituary) must be provided to the instructor. Under these exceptional circumstances, at the discretion of the instructor and TA, you may make-up one missed seminar by submitting a report.

Grading Details (Discussions):

It is important that you understand the major portions of the talk, but often there may be areas of which you are unfamiliar. The best way to improve your understanding is to discuss amongst your peers and the TA/Instructor. Immediately after the seminar, we will congregate near the north rear exit of the seminar room and discuss the talk for the remaining 15 minutes of class. You are graded on whether you have contributed in a meaningful way to this discussion. Usually this is a good question about the seminar, or answering a classmates' question. The TA/instructor will generally ask you for input if you have not contributed near the end of the time. Missed discussions count as a zero, and unless one of the earlier situations has occurred, a one-page report on the speaker's research must be submitted.

Additional Grade Contributions (Seminar Etiquette):

It is discourteous to arrive late for seminar, and to encourage on time arrival, students must sign in with the TA before the start of each seminar. If you fail to sign in, or arrive after the start of the class period, it will result in a 0.5 for that seminar. You are also expected to stay for the whole seminar; leaving at any point will result in a similar penalty. The use of computers during

the seminar is not permitted and instead notes must be taken on paper, to better focus on the presentation. Students enrolled in the class must sit in the first seven rows of the classroom closest to the podium. Breach of these points of etiquette results in a 0.5-point deduction for that seminar.

Additional Grade Contributions (Speaker Questions):

Seminars are meant for a speaker to convey the science of their research to the audience. The most important part of a presentation are the questions from the audience, and the questions reflect favorably on the clarity and importance of the presentation. Do not shy away from questions, please ask the speaker. To encourage questions, in order to receive an A or A- for the course, you must ask at least one seminar speaker a well-thought out question during the Q/A portion of the presentation over the course of the semester. The maximum grade is a B+ if no questions are asked.

Schedule (will be updated in Sakai)

8/29		Meeting with Instructor	
9/5	1	Ms. A. Lugosan	Loyola University Chicago
9/12	2	Dr. J. Devery	Loyola University Chicago
9/19	3	Dr. Russell Holmes	U. of Minnesota
9/26	4	TBD	TBD
10/3	5	TBD	Loyola University Chicago
10/10	6	Dr. Igor Alabugin	Florida State University
10/17	7	TBD	TBD
10/24	8	Dr. Christopher Uyeda	Purdue University
10/31	9	TBD	TBD
11/7	10	TBD	Loyola University Chicago
11/14	11	Dr. Scott Snyder	U. of Chicago
11/21	12	Dr. Gaby Avila -Bront	Holly Cross
11/28	-	Thanksgiving	-
12/5	13	TBD	Loyola University Chicago

Report Format (in case of exceptional circumstances):

Your report should be one single-spaced page and **must** contain the parts listed below. It must be your own words and may not quote from any sources.

A: Speaker’s name and affiliation.

B: A summary of the findings within at least two journal articles written by the speaker. Your report should cite these papers where you refer to the information from the article. Bibliographic information does not count towards the page limit.

C: Evaluation of the quality of the research generated in speaker’s lab. This evaluation should contain the following data:

- 1) Funding sources for the research (these are usually mentioned at the end of their journal articles);
- 2) Number of articles published by the speaker in the past 5 years (i.e., 2013-2018), as found via web of science;
- 3) The speaker’s Hirsch index (h-index), as found via web of science.

Please include a screenshot of 1), 2), and 3) on the back page of your report.

For speakers with overly common names, the institution should be included in your search.

Reports are due at the seminar directly after the absence.