

CHM1190 ANALYTICAL CHEMISTRY SEMINARS

COURSE SYLLABUS

Instructors: Dr. Kagan Kerman & Dr. Ruby Sullan

Location: Davenport East Seminar room

Date: Thursdays, 11 am – 12 pm

Seminar schedule: Please, check the Quercus course page for updated seminar schedule.

Introduction:

This one credit course aims to give graduate students practice speaking in front of a scientific audience and to explore analytical topics in detail. Students will research topics and organize presentations for faculty and other graduate students. The topics may be any aspect of the analytical sciences and must be approved by their supervisor in advance. Our MSc students are required to give one departmental seminar before the completion of their studies. Our PhD students are required give two department seminars; usually one in the first or second year, and another one towards the end of their PhD studies (3rd or 4th-year). Please, consult with your supervisors and let the course instructors know your preferred seminar date via the following email address:

AnalyticalSeminars@gmail.com

We would like you to use this email address for all your Analytical Seminars-related correspondences including the ASP reports. The course instructors will be checking the inbox and replying to the students in due time.

Students will have to send the abstract of their seminar at least 10 business days before their seminar date to:

AnalyticalSeminars@gmail.com & chem.reception@utoronto.ca

Abstracts should be concise (250-300 words), well written and free of grammatical and typographical errors. Be sure to tell the highlights of your research results in your abstract. The abstract will also serve as an announcement and should include the time, date, and location of your seminar.

Learning outcomes:

To help students improve as scientific speakers

To expose students to various research fields in Analytical Chemistry.

Attendance:

Attendance at each seminar is mandatory for all graduate students enrolled. In addition, students are expected to attend all other seminars in the department, such as invited guest speakers.

It is expected that students will actively participate by asking questions to the speaker. Each student will receive feedback from the fellow students and the attending faculty members.

Seminar schedule:

Seminars will take place on Thursdays from 11 am to 12 pm in Davenport East seminar room, as usual. The tentative schedule for Fall and Winter terms will be posted on Quercus page of the course.

Evaluation:

Each seminar will be evaluated with the following criteria by the course instructors and the supervisor of student:

- preparation, content and organization
- introduction and context of research
- student's understanding of material
- description of methods and results
- presentation skills (includes audience interaction, oration)
- slide design
- presentation structure
- responses to questions and student's ability to handle discussion

After each seminar, the course instructor will post an assignment that includes 3-5 questions about the seminar. The graduate students will submit their reports including the answers to those questions as a Word or PDF file by the submission deadline to the following email address:

AnalyticalSeminars@gmail.com

After a careful evaluation of each report by the course instructor, the successful ones will get 1 Analytical Seminar Plus (ASP) point. If the report is not found successful, the student will be given comments by the course instructor and one more chance to revise their report with a new deadline. If the student fails to revise their report according to the comments of the instructor, they will not get an ASP point.

Analytical Chemistry program's PhD students have to complete 30 ASP points, preferably, before their oral comprehensive exam. MSc students do not have to submit ASP reports and collect ASP points. If MSc students are planning to transfer to PhD after one year of their MSc studies, we can encourage them to start submitting ASP reports as early as possible.