



College Document # 42  
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**CATALOG YEAR 2014-2015**  
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COLLEGE/SCHOOL : College of Arts and Sciences

Current Catalog Page(s) Affected:

**Course:** Add:  Delete: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (check all that apply) Change: Number \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_ SCH \_\_\_\_\_  
 Description \_\_\_\_\_ Prerequisite \_\_\_\_\_

If new, provide Course Prefix, Number, Title, SCH Value, Description, prerequisite, and lecture/lab hours if applicable. If in current catalog, copy and paste the text from the [on-line catalog](#) and indicate changes in red.

**CHEM 4190**

***Writing for Chemical Literature***

One semester hour. (SP)

Course provides instruction and experience in advanced writing techniques for students planning careers in chemistry or related scientific disciplines. Prerequisites: CHEM 2425, CHEM 4198-4498 recommended.

Justification: Chemsitry degree plan will now require the course instead of having a general elective hour. The course will be useful for any science major.

Approvals:	Signature	Date
Chair Department Curriculum Committee	Neal McReynolds <small>Digitally signed by Neal McReynolds DN: cn=Neal McReynolds, o=Texas A&amp;M International University, ou=Department of Biology and Chemistry, email=nmcreynolds@tamiu.edu, c=US Date: 2014.02.12 10:21:38 -0600</small>	_____
Chair Department	Daniel Mott <small>Digitally signed by Daniel Mott DN: cn=Daniel Mott, o=Texas A M International University, ou=Biology and Chemistry, email=dmott@tamiu.edu, c=US Date: 2014.02.13 10:10:31 -0600</small>	_____
Chair College Curriculum Committee	Lynne L. Manganaro <small>Digitally signed by Lynne L. Manganaro DN: cn=Lynne L. Manganaro, o, ou, email=lynne.manganaro@tamiu.edu, c=US Date: 2014.02.13 16:20:05 -06'00'</small>	_____
Dean	Frances Bernat <small>Digitally signed by Frances Bernat DN: cn=Frances Bernat, o=COAS, ou=Public Affairs and Social Research, email=frances.bernat@tamiu.edu, c=US Date: 2014.02.14 10:10:27 -06'00'</small>	_____

  
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 Provost's Signature  
 Date 2/17/2014

## **Syllabus Info for (CHEM 4190) Writing for Chemical Literature**

### **Course Description**

This course provides instruction and experience in advanced writing techniques for students planning careers in chemistry or related scientific disciplines. The course will help students:

- 1) Prepare for further chemistry courses that require scientific writing as a part of their curriculum.
- 2) Search the chemical literature using relevant database tools.
- 3) Develop practical experience in writing for a professional, technical audience.
- 4) Become more effective written communicators in their future scientific careers.

### **Content and Topics**

Searching chemical literature, writing a journal article in the proper style, scientific oral/poster presentations, business communication (resumes cover letters).

### **Learning Outcomes**

#### **Students will:**

1. Learn to effectively use common electronic resources for searching the scientific literature.
2. Learn to communicate scientific findings in a manner consistent with chemical literature practices. Specifically,
  - a. Become familiar with the common structure of a typical research article in the literature (Abstract, Introduction, Experimental/Methods, Results, Discussion, Summary)
  - b. Learn writing styles appropriate for the scientific literature.
  - c. Learn to properly incorporate tables and figures into a research article.
  - d. Properly cite references in a research article using accepted literature formats.
3. Learn how the process of peer-review is used in the chemical literature, and practice effective reviewing techniques when reading others' work.

### **Course Requirements**

Each student will write a research article in the style of the chemical literature, using data gathered by the student in a previous research project, data provided by the instructor, or data acquired from an independent project in your kitchen. The article will consist of approximately 10-15 pages of polished prose, not including tables, figures, or references. Assignments for the course will be built around meeting this major outcome.

**Prerequisites:** CHEM 2425, CHEM 4198-4498 recommended.

**Semesters Taught** Once a year during Spring semester