CATALOG YEAR 2014-2015

(Please use separate form for each add/change)

COLLEGE/SCHOOL: College of Arts and Sciences
Current Catalog Page(s) Affected:
Course:
Add: x 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: Chemistry degree plan will now require the course instead of having a general elective hour. The course will be useful for any science major.

Approvals:
Chair
Department Curriculum Committee
Chair
Department
Chair
College Curriculum Committee
Dean

Signature
Neal McReynolds
Date

Signature
Daniel Mott
Date

Signature
Lynne L. Manganaro
Date

Signature
Frances Bernat
Date
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