



The University of Texas at Tyler



# Chemical Literature

Chem 4190

## Course Description

Students will research a current literature topic and present it at a poster session.

Day	Time	Location
Mondays	12:20-1:15	RBS 2015

**Prerequisite:** Senior Standing

## Course Overview

This course is the first of a 2-semester capstone sequence for the B.S. degrees in Chemistry and Biochemistry. It is designed to teach you how to perform one of the most important jobs of any chemist, the interpretation and dissemination of chemical information. Scientists communicate the fruits of their labor

mostly in written form (i.e. scientific articles, textbooks, short communications, and reviews). Conferences and other forms of verbal communication; however, are also vitally important. Success in such endeavors is an important part of getting other scientists to take your ideas and results seriously. Good communications skills are also important in getting and maintaining a job. Thus, any training to becoming a successful chemist must contain significant literature and presentation components, which will be presented in this course.

## Instructor Information

**Lauren Johnson, MS**

Email: [laurenjohnson@uttyler.edu](mailto:laurenjohnson@uttyler.edu)

Office: RBS 3005

Phone: 903-565-5508

Office Hours

Tuesday: 10-11:30am, 1:30-2:30pm

Wednesday: 10:30-11:30am

Thursday: 10-11:30am

## Course Main Components

1. Attending lectures on science literacy and proper research of chemical literature
2. Accessing the chemical literature and selecting a topic
3. Meeting with a faculty mentor to guide you along the way
4. Preparing a one-paragraph abstract for the topic to be presented
5. Preparing the poster and presenting it at the poster session

## Student Learning Outcomes


By the end of this course, you should be able to:

1. Demonstrate the ability to acquire, evaluate, and integrate information from the chemical literature.
2. Prepare a clear, concise abstract.
3. Discuss a chosen topic with a faculty mentor
4. Effectively organize and present the scientific information verbally and in writing at a poster session.

“Falsity in intellectual action is intellectual immorality.” - *Thomas Chrowder Chamberlin*



## Communication

- This course will be hosted on UT Tyler's Canvas server. You may access your Canvas account online at <https://www.uttyler.edu/canvas>  This site will contain a significant amount of information that will help you in this course in addition to being the medium through which you may access your current grade.
- I will mostly contact you through Canvas, so be sure you have your account to receive alerts. I am not responsible for you not receiving announcements pertaining to this course. I will also occasionally send information to you via email. You will need to make sure you are checking your Patriots email account regularly.

## Patriot\*Email

### Required Materials

- An curious mind and a good attitude

### Topic Selection

Your topic needs to have a strong chemical or biochemical focus in terms of synthesis, characterization, and/or biological effects. It is HIGHLY recommended that this topic comes from a reputable, peer-reviewed journal. Your instructor can help guide you, but don't wait until the last moment. Pick a topic you are interested in, not just one that is easy. If you are not excited about your topic, how can you expect anyone else to be?

**Take pride in your presentation.** One of the main purposes of this course is for you to demonstrate what you have learned. Not taking this course seriously will not only hurt your grade in this course, but it may also have a negative impact on letters of recommendation.

### Grading (see schedule for assignment color coordination)

Poster: 50%

Participation Assignments: 25%

Abstract: 15%

Instructor Meetings: 10%



## Tentative Schedule (subject to change)

<i>Tentative Chemical Literature Schedule – Spring 2022</i>		
	TOPIC OF THE WEEK	ASSIGNMENTS and DUE DATES
<i>January 10</i>	Science Literacy	Assignment: Rank Mentors
<i>January 17</i>	<b>No Class – MLK Jr. Day</b>	
<i>January 24</i>	Library Talk	Assignment: Research Topic and Contact Mentor
<i>January 31</i>	<b>No Class – Work on topic</b>	
<i>February 7</i>	Why Citation Matters, Poster Construction	
<i>February 14</i>	Resumes and Abstracts	Due: Chosen topic submission, Article with Mentor approval signature
<i>February 21</i>	What Makes a Good Poster Presentation	Due: Written Abstract Assignment: Prepare a 2.5 minute talk for next week
<i>February 28</i>	Elevator Pitch	Due: 2.5 minute talk (Elevator Pitch) Due: Resume/Application Content
<i>March 7</i>	<b>No Class – Spring Break</b>	
<i>March 14</i>	Poster Outlines and Structure	Assignment: Second meeting with Mentor by the end of week
<i>March 21</i>	Poster Rough Draft	Due: PDF of Poster Rough Draft
<i>March 28</i>	<b>No Class – Practice/Study</b>	
<i>April 4</i>	Practice talk	Due: Practice Talk
<i>April 11</i>	<b>No Class – Practice/Study</b>	
<i>April 18</i>	Final Poster Presentation	Due: Signed Mentor Meeting Sheet and PDF of Poster by the end of the week
<i>April 25</i>	<b>No Class – Finals Week</b>	

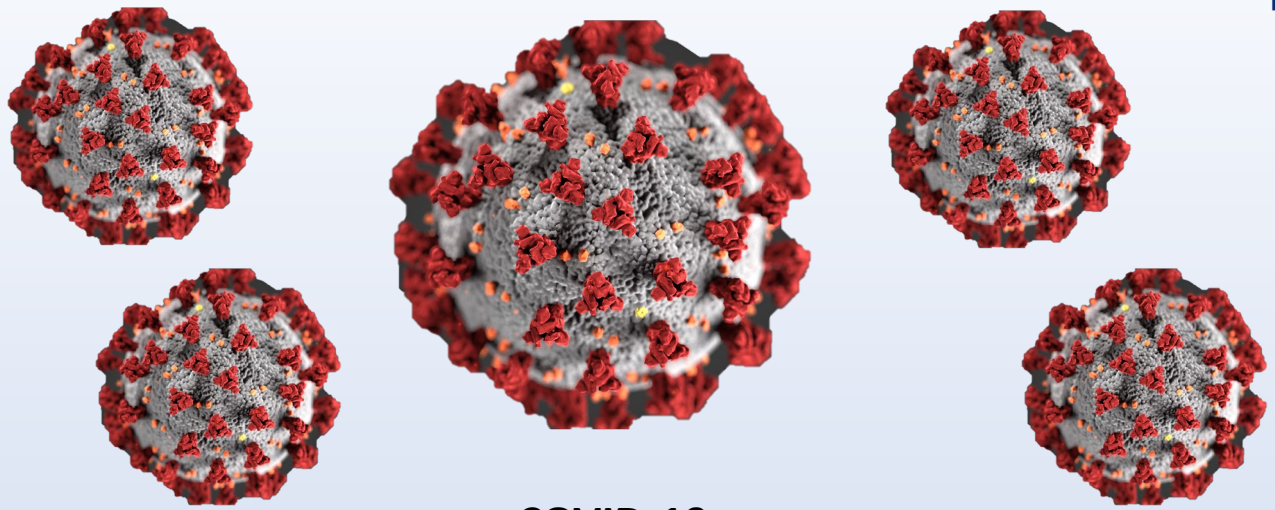
### Mentor Meeting and Sign-Off Sheet

You must meet with your assigned mentor(s) at least three times before you present. You will need your mentor's signature each time you meet. This is to better serve you as the presenter and make sure you are making adequate progress toward your end goal of presenting a well-prepared poster. Your completed sign-off sheet will be due the last week of class, but ALL MEETINGS MUST OCCUR BEFORE YOUR POSTER PRESENTATION DATE

### Attendance/Participation

A large portion of this course's grade relates to attending and *being prepared* for class. If you need to miss class for any reason, please be sure to contact the instructor as soon as possible. Assignment dates can be shifted for legitimate emergencies or illness.

“A scientist is not a person who gives the right answer; he is the one who asks the right questions.”- *Claude Levi-Strauss*

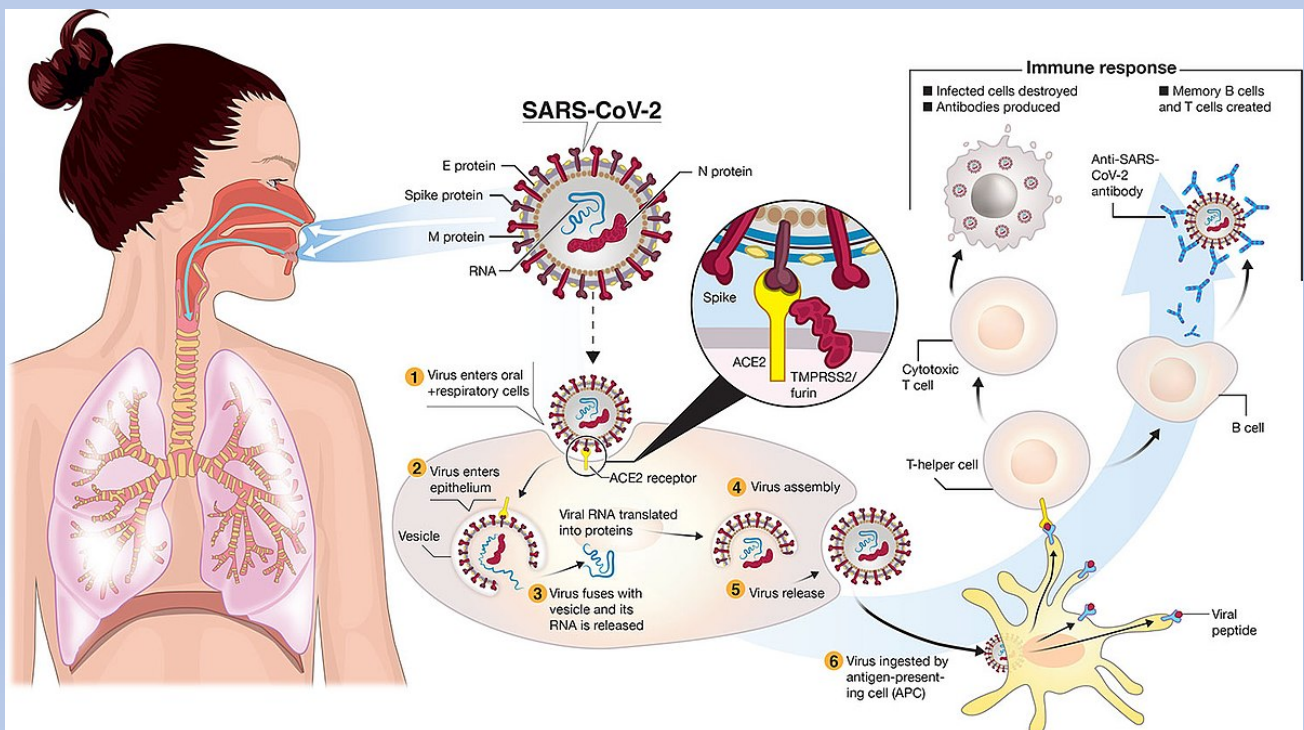


## COVID-19

Students are expected to wear face masks covering their nose and mouth in public settings (including classrooms and laboratories). The UT Tyler community of Patriots views adoption of these practices consistent with its [Honor Code](#) and a sign of good citizenship and respectful care of fellow classmates, faculty, and staff.

Students who are feeling ill or experiencing symptoms such as sneezing, coughing, digestive issues (e.g. nausea, diarrhea), or a higher than normal temperature should stay at home and are encouraged to use the [UT Tyler COVID-19 Information and Procedures](#) website to review protocols, check symptoms, and report possible exposure.

Students needing additional accommodations may contact the Office of Student Accessibility and Resources at University Center 3150, or call (903) 566-7079 or email [saroffice@uttyler.edu](mailto:saroffice@uttyler.edu).



# UNIVERSITY POLICY HIGHLIGHTS

These are just some selected highlights from the University policies. For the full and more complete list, please visit: [www.uttyler.edu/academicaffairs/syllabuspolicies.pdf](http://www.uttyler.edu/academicaffairs/syllabuspolicies.pdf)

## Students Rights and Responsibilities

To know and understand the policies that affect your rights and responsibilities as a student at UT Tyler, please follow this link: <http://www.uttyler.edu/wellness/rightsresponsibilities.php>

## Campus Carry

We respect the right and privacy of students 21 and over who are duly licensed to carry concealed weapons in this class. License holders are expected to behave responsibly and keep a handgun secure and concealed. More information is available at <http://www.uttyler.edu/about/campus-carry/index.php>

## UT Tyler a Tobacco-Free University

All forms of tobacco will not be permitted on the UT Tyler main campus, branch campuses, and any property owned by UT Tyler. This applies to all members of the University community, including students, faculty, staff, University affiliates, contractors, and visitors.

Forms of tobacco not permitted include cigarettes, cigars, pipes, water pipes (hookah), bidis, kreteks, electronic cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chewing tobacco, and all other tobacco products.

There are several cessation programs available to students looking to quit smoking, including counseling, quitlines, and group support. For more information on cessation programs please visit [www.uttyler.edu/tobacco-free](http://www.uttyler.edu/tobacco-free).

## Grade Replacement/Forgiveness and Census Date Policies

Students repeating a course for grade forgiveness (grade replacement) must file a Grade Replacement Contract with the Enrollment Services Center (ADM 230) on or before the Census Date of the semester in which the course will be repeated. (For Fall, the Census Date is Sept. 12.) Grade Replacement Contracts are available in the Enrollment Services Center or at <http://www.uttyler.edu/registrar>. Each semester's Census Date can be found on the Contract itself, on the Academic Calendar, or in the information pamphlets published each semester by the Office of the Registrar.

Failure to file a Grade Replacement Contract will result in both the original and repeated grade being used to calculate your overall grade point average. Undergraduates are eligible to exercise grade replacement for only three course repeats during their career at UT Tyler; graduates are eligible for two grade replacements. Full policy details are printed on each Grade Replacement Contract.

The Census Date (Sept. 12th) is the deadline for many forms and enrollment actions of which students need to be aware. These include:

- Submitting Grade Replacement Contracts, Transient Forms, requests to withhold directory information, approvals for taking courses as Audit, Pass/Fail or Credit/No Credit.
- Receiving 100% refunds for partial withdrawals. (There is no refund for these after the Census Date)
- Schedule adjustments (section changes, adding a new class, dropping without a "W" grade)
- Being reinstated or re-enrolled in classes after being dropped for non-payment
- Completing the process for tuition exemptions or waivers through Financial Aid

## State-Mandated Course Drop Policy

Texas law prohibits a student who began college for the first time in Fall 2007 or thereafter from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career. This includes courses dropped at another 2-year or 4-year Texas public college or university. For purposes of this rule, a dropped course is any course that is dropped after the census date (See Academic Calendar for the specific date).

Exceptions to the 6-drop rule may be found in the catalog. Petitions for exemptions must be submitted to the Enrollment Services Center and must be accompanied by documentation of the extenuating circumstance. Please contact the Enrollment Services Center if you have any questions.

## Student Absence due to Religious Observance

Students who anticipate being absent from class due to a religious observance are requested to inform the instructor of such absences by the second class meeting of the semester.

## Student Absence for University-Sponsored Events and Activities

If you intend to be absent for a university-sponsored event or activity, you (or the event sponsor) must notify the instructor at least two weeks prior to the date of the planned absence. At that time the instructor will set a date and time when make-up assignments will be completed.