Syllabus: CHEM 5940 (1 credit hour)  
Seminar in Current Chemistry, Spring 2016

Instructor: Dr. LeGrande M. Slaughter (legrande.slaughter@unt.edu); office phone: 940-565-4350
Seminar time & location: Unless otherwise announced, Fridays 3:30 – 4:30 PM, CHEM 109

Spring 2016 Seminar Schedule (subject to amendment and/or revision)

1/22  Brad Pierce, University of Texas at Arlington (Host: Slaughter)  
EPR, Mössbauer and Kinetic Interrogation Of The Promiscuous Thiol Dioxygenase (3-Mercaptopropionic Acid Dioxygenase)

   Wes Borden, UNT – Davidson Lecturer (Host: Richmond)  
   (Lecture 1) Tunneling by Carbon: Calculations Tell Experimentalists Where to Look and What to Look For (*special Thursday seminar in ENV 130, 3:30 p.m.)
   1/29 (Lecture 2) Why Does 1,2,3,4-Cyclobutanetetraone, (CO)₄, Have a Triplet Ground State; Whereas, (CO)₃, (CO)₅, (CO)₆, and (CS)₄ All Have Singlet Ground States?

2/5  R. Tom Baker, University of Ottawa (Host: Richmond)  
Base Metal Catalysis Approaches to Greener Hydrofluorocarbon Synthesis

2/12  Banglin Chen, University of Texas at San Antonio (Host: Omary)  
Metal-Organic Frameworks: Platform for Multifunctional Materials

2/19  Organic Faculty Candidate – To Be Announced†

2/26  Organic Faculty Candidate – To Be Announced†

3/4  Alan Heyduk, University of California - Irvine (Host: Cundari)  
Multimetallocal Complexes Containing a Redox-Active Cofactor

3/11  Richard Adams, University of South Carolina (Host: Richmond)  
C-Au versus C-H Bond Activation: The Synthesis and Reactivity of Bridging Aryl Ligands in Metal Carbonyl Cluster Complexes

3/18 Spring Break & ACS Meeting – No Seminar

3/25 Good Friday – No Seminar

4/1  Joseph Bozenko, Drug Enforcement Administration – Tentative (Host: Verbeck)  
Title To Be Announced

4/8*  Bonner Denton, University of Arizona (Host: Richmond)  
*Title AND LOCATION To Be Announced

4/15*  Robert Grubbs, California Institute of Technology (Host: Slaughter)  
*Title AND LOCATION To Be Announced

4/22  Chia-Kuang “Frank” Tsung, Boston College (Host: Omary)  
Controlled Encapsulation of Catalysts in Metal-Organic Frameworks

4/29*  Graduate Student Research Day – 3rd Year Talks (*Schedule and rooms to be announced)

5/6 “Reading Day” – No Seminar

†There will likely be a third, non-Friday Organic Faculty Candidate seminar sometime in February; date to be announced
Course Objectives
The primary objective of this course is to provide graduate students with exposure to topical areas of chemistry research through seminars given by prominent researchers from the chemical community. A second objective is to foster critical thinking and open exchange of ideas with scientists from outside UNT.

Required Enrollment
All full-time graduate students (M.S. and Ph.D.) are required to enroll in this course during each Fall and Spring semester of graduate study. If you spend any semesters as a part-time graduate student, you must make sure that you complete a minimum of 5 credit hours (i.e. 5 semesters) of CHEM 5940 during your graduate studies.

Grading
This course is graded on a Pass/No Pass basis only. The sole criterion for passing the course will be attendance/participation.

Attendance Policy
Students are expected to attend and participate in each scheduled seminar. Any absence must be approved by the instructor and must have a valid reason that can be documented. Valid reasons include illness requiring a visit to the doctor, travel to an external conference with advisor’s approval, and religious holidays. Personal travel and social events are not valid reasons for missing seminar. You are allowed a total of two absences during the semester. Missing more than two seminars will lead to a grade of No Pass for the course.

Participation
You are strongly encouraged to ask questions during the question-and-answer period (typically, 10 minutes at the end of the seminar). Because not everyone will have an opportunity to do so, the instructor will provide a slip of paper to each student at the beginning of each seminar on which you should write a question to the speaker related to the seminar topic. The instructor will select some of these questions for the speaker to answer. Note that these slips will also be used to record attendance/participation. You must write a question in order to receive credit for attending the seminar.

Special (Non-Friday) Seminars
Two non-Friday seminars are currently planned: the first Davidson Lecture by Prof. Wes Borden on Thursday, January 28, and one seminar by an Organic faculty candidate (date and time to be announced). You are expected to attend these special seminars if your class and teaching schedules allow it. If you have an unavoidable conflict, please notify the instructor. It will not count against your two allowed absences if you have a scheduled conflict with a non-Friday seminar and you notify the instructor.

Canceled Seminars
If the University is closed due to weather or other circumstances, seminar will be cancelled. In the event the seminar is rescheduled, you will be notified by email.

Required Materials
None. A notebook or electronic device for taking notes is strongly recommended.

Course Web Page
Any updates to the seminar schedule will be posted on the Blackboard Learn page for CHEM 5940. To access this page, use the following link with your EUID and password: https://learn.unt.edu/

Instructor Office Hours
Monday and Wednesday, 1:30 – 3:00 PM, CHEM 307E