Syllabus: CHEM 4940 (1 credit hour)
Chemistry Seminar, Spring 2017

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 2017 Seminar Schedule (subject to amendment and/or revision)

1/20  Konrad Patkowski, Auburn University (Host: Cisneros)
       Noncovalent Interactions - Towards Better Accuracy and More Insight

1/23* Dongho Kim, Yonsei University (South Korea) (Host: D’Souza)
       *Special Monday seminar; 3 pm in GAB 104.
       Characterization of Exciton Dynamics in Functional π-Electronic Systems

1/27  Caleb Martin, Baylor University (Host: Slaughter)
       Exploiting the Diverse Chemistry of Boroles to Access Unsaturated Boracycles

2/3   Eugene DePrince, Florida State University (Host: Cundari)
       Quantum Chemistry without Wave Functions

       Paul Ayers, McMaster University – Davidson Lecturer (Host: Cisneros)
       (Lecture 1): Title To Be Announced (*special Thursday seminar in CURY 104, 3:30 p.m.)
       (Lecture 2): Title To Be Announced

2/17  Michael Wasielewski, Northwestern University (Host: D’Souza)
       Light-Driven Processes in Self-Ordering Molecular Materials

2/24  Carl Ventrice, SUNY Polytechnic Institute (Host: Kelber)
       Title To Be Announced

3/3   Mike Bartberger, Amgen (Hosts: Weber/ Cundari)
       Application of Computational Methods to Chemical Reactivity, Structural Elucidation, and Drug Design

3/10  Greg Cuny, University of Houston, Pharmacology Dept. (Host: Richmond)
       Aporphine Alkaloids as a Privileged Pharmacological Scaffold

3/17  Spring Break – No Seminar

3/24  To Be Announced

3/31  Rick Page, Miami University of Ohio (Host: Wang)
       Dynamic Protein Quality Control by the CHIP/Hsp70 Complex

4/7   Bruce Parkinson (Host: Golden)
       Title To Be Announced

4/14  Good Friday – No Seminar

4/21  Charles Bauschlicher, NASA Ames Research Center (Host: Bagus)
       Title To Be Announced

4/28  Graduate Student Research Day – 3rd Year Talks (Schedule and rooms to be announced)

5/5   “Reading Day” – No Seminar
Course Objectives
The primary objective of this course is to provide advanced chemistry majors 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.

Credit Toward a Chemistry Major
CHEM 4940 is not a core required course for Chemistry majors. However, it may be counted as part of your 42 required credit hours of advanced (3000- and 4000-level) coursework.

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. You must sign the Attendance Sheet at each seminar in order to receive credit for attending. 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. More than two absences 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 form part of your attendance/participation record. You must write a question in order to receive credit for attending.

Special Seminars
Two non-Friday seminars are currently planned: a special Monday seminar by Prof. Dongho Kim on January 23, and the first Davidson Lecture by Prof. Paul Ayers on Thursday, February 9. You are strongly encouraged to attend these special seminars if your class schedule allows it. It is important to have a strong showing of students for these distinguished scientists, who merit special non-Friday seminar times. As an incentive, attendance of two special seminars will cancel out one absence from a Friday seminar.

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 4940. To access this page, use the following link with your EUID and password:  

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