

## SYLLABUS

Course: CHEM 494/5940 (Chemistry Seminar)

Term: Spring 2022

Instructor: Prof. Shengqian Ma ([shengqian.ma@unt.edu](mailto:shengqian.ma@unt.edu), 940-369-7137)

As members of the UNT community, we have all made a commitment to be part of an institution that respects and values the identities of the students and employees with whom we interact. UNT does not tolerate identity-based discrimination, harassment, and retaliation.

**Unless otherwise noted, seminars are held on Fridays from  
3:30–4:20 p.m. in CHEM 109**

**All seminars are free and open to the public**

- 1/21 Robert Comito, University of Houston  
Amination methods for complex molecule and polymer synthesis
- 1/28 Lou Charkoudian, Haverford College  
Capturing transient interactions of proteins involved in natural product biosynthesis  
Zoom: <https://unt.zoom.us/j/87163245792>
- 2/4 Bin Wang, The University of Oklahoma  
Role of Interfacial Charge Transfer and Excitation for Chemical Conversion
- 2/11 Suazette Mooring, Georgia State University  
Title
- 2/18 Adam Veige, University of Florida  
Title
- 2/25 Xiaodong Shi, University of South Florida  
The Two Gearwheel of Molecular Science: Rational Design and Serendipity
- 3/4 Sungwoo Nam, University of California, Irvine  
Title
- 3/11 Slavomir Nemsak, Lawrence Berkeley Lab  
Using X-rays to investigate electronic structure, chemistry and morphology of complex systems  
Zoom: <https://unt.zoom.us/j/82239662302>
- 3/18 Spring Break – No Seminar
- 3/24 Alán Aspuru-Guzik, University of Toronto  
Title  
**SPECIAL DATE & LOCATION: THURSDAY, MARCH 24, ART 223, 2:30PM**
- 3/25 Alán Aspuru-Guzik, University of Toronto  
Davidson Lecture: Title
- 4/1 Hans-Joachim Freund, Fritz Haber Institute of the Max Planck Society  
Title

Zoom: <https://unt.zoom.us/j/85480290787>

- 4/8 Peter Zhang, Boston College  
Metalloradical Catalysis for Stereoselective Radical Reactions
- 4/15 Good Friday – No Seminar
- 4/22 Ognjen Miljanic, University of Houston  
Greenhouse Gas Capture in Porous Molecular Crystals
- 4/29 Egill Skúlason, University of Iceland  
Title  
Zoom: <https://unt.zoom.us/j/81972217668>
- 5/6 Reading Day – No Seminar

### **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

- There are no exams; students are expected to attend all seminars unless a significant compelling reason is given (TA conflict, speaking at an external conference, etc.).
- For online seminars, it is expected that all students will have reliable access to Zoom, either via computer or phone, for the duration of each seminar.
- If the University cancels classes on the day of a scheduled seminar, then the seminar is canceled.

### **Attendance Policy:**

- More than 2 unexcused absences will result in failure.
- Attendance has 2 parts: attendance and submitting a question via the approved method.
- For in-person attendance:
  - Student **MUST** sign one of the attendance sheets that will be placed at the front of the classroom.
- For Zoom attendance:
  - Zoom screen names **MUST** include first and last names, not nicknames or email addresses. This must be done to receive credit for attending.
  - If students call into the Zoom meeting instead of using the Zoom app, they **MUST** email Shawn Adams ([chemseminar@unt.edu](mailto:chemseminar@unt.edu)) to let him know, along with their phone number for verification purposes.
  - Students must attend a combined total of **AT LEAST 30 minutes** to be marked as “signed in” (even if you have to keep signing in multiple times) from the time that the seminar begins—3:30 PM.
- For submitting a question:
  - For in-person seminars: Students **MUST** submit a question using one of the question sheets placed at the front of the classroom.

- For Zoom seminars: Students MUST submit a question via email to [chemseminar@unt.edu](mailto:chemseminar@unt.edu) within 30 minutes of the end of the seminar or 5 PM, whichever is later.

## **COVID-19 IMPACT ON ATTENDANCE**

While attendance is expected as outlined above, it is important for all of us to be mindful of the health and safety of everyone in our community, especially given concerns about COVID-19. Please contact me if you are unable to attend class because you are ill, or unable to attend class due to a related issue regarding COVID-19. It is important that you communicate with me prior to being absent so I may make a decision about accommodating your request to be excused from class.

If you are experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19 (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>) please seek medical attention from the Student Health and Wellness Center (940-565-2333 or [askSHWC@unt.edu](mailto:askSHWC@unt.edu)) or your health care provider PRIOR to coming to campus. UNT also requires you to contact the UNT COVID Hotline at 844-366-5892 or [COVID@unt.edu](mailto:COVID@unt.edu) for guidance on actions to take due to symptoms, pending or positive test results, or potential exposure. While attendance is an important part of succeeding in this class, your own health, and those of others in the community, is more important.

## **ADDITIONAL NOTES:**

Participants MAY ask questions during the Q&A portion of the seminar.

- Click on MANAGE PARTICIPANTS either above or below the shared screen (seems to move around a little).
- Click on “Raise Hand” at the bottom of the list of participants.
- The seminar host will call on participants to ask their questions. You can either unmute your mic to ask your question verbally or you can ask it in the CHAT screen.

CLEAR has a webpage for students that provides Online Communication Tips (<https://clear.unt.edu/online-communication-tips>) that instructors can share with students and/or adapt for their own uses.

## **MINIMUM TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS**

- Computer
- Reliable internet access
- Speakers
- Canvas Technical Requirements: <https://clear.unt.edu/supported-technologies/canvas/requirements>

## **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**

Part of working in the online environment involves dealing with the inconveniences and frustration that can arise when technology breaks down or does not perform as expected. Here at UNT we have a Student Help Desk that you can contact for help with Canvas or other technology issues.

- **UIT Help Desk:** UIT Student Help Desk site (<http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/index.htm>)
- **Email:** [helpdesk@unt.edu](mailto:helpdesk@unt.edu)
- **Phone:** 940-565-2324
- **In Person:** Sage Hall, Room 130
- **Walk-In Availability:** 8am-9pm
- **Telephone Availability:**
  - Sunday: noon-midnight
  - Monday-Thursday: 8am-midnight
  - Friday: 8am-8pm
  - Saturday: 9am-5pm
- **Laptop Checkout:** 8am-7pm

For additional support, visit Canvas Technical Help  
<https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10554-4212710328>)

## **CLASS MATERIALS FOR REMOTE INSTRUCTION**

Remote instruction may be necessary if community health conditions change or you need to self-isolate or quarantine due to COVID-19. Students will need access to reliable internet access and speakers, possibly a microphone and webcam, to participate in fully remote portions of the class. Additional required classroom materials for remote learning include: Zoom software either on a desktop/laptop or cell phone. Information on how to be successful in a remote learning environment can be found at <https://online.unt.edu/learn>.

## **UNT POLICIES**

### **ADA Policy**

UNT makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide a student with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding one's specific course needs. Students may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the ODA website (<https://disability.unt.edu/>).

### **Emergency Notification & Procedures**

UNT uses a system called Eagle Alert to quickly notify students with critical information in the event of an emergency (i.e., severe weather, campus closing, and health and public safety emergencies like chemical spills, fires, or violence). In the event of a university closure, please refer to Canvas for contingency plans for covering course materials.

### **Acceptable Student Behavior**

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor's ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the

classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The University's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including University and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. Visit UNT's Code of Student Conduct (<https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct>) to learn more.

### **Student Evaluation Administration Dates**

Student feedback is important and an essential part of participation in this course. The student evaluation of instruction is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. The survey will be made available during weeks 13, 14 and 15 [insert administration dates] of the long semesters to provide students with an opportunity to evaluate how this course is taught. Students will receive an email from "UNT SPOT Course Evaluations via IASystem Notification" ([no-reply@iasystem.org](mailto:no-reply@iasystem.org)) with the survey link. Students should look for the email in their UNT email inbox. Simply click on the link and complete the survey. Once students complete the survey they will receive a confirmation email that the survey has been submitted. For additional information, please visit the SPOT website (<http://spot.unt.edu/>) or email [spot@unt.edu](mailto:spot@unt.edu).

### **Prohibition of Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation (Policy 16.004)**

The University of North Texas (UNT) prohibits discrimination and harassment because of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal or state law in its application and admission processes; educational programs and activities; employment policies, procedures, and processes; and university facilities. The University takes active measures to prevent such conduct and investigates and takes remedial action when appropriate.

**DISCLAIMER:** The professor of this course reserves the right to alter at any time any of the information presented on this syllabus at his discretion.