

SYLLABUS

Course: CHEM 4940/5940 (Chemistry Seminar)

Term: Spring 2024

Instructor: Prof. Shengqian Ma (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 Thursdays from
3:30–4:20 p.m. in CHEM 109**

All seminars are free and open to the public

- 1/18 *Faculty candidate interview*
- 1/25 *Faculty Candidate interview*
- 2/1 *Faculty Candidate interview*
- 2/8 Sarah E. O'Connor, Max Planck Institute for Chemical Ecology
Seminar title: *Harnessing Natural Product Pathways* (Seminar will be in **Lyceum Theater**)
- 2/15 Jian Wang, Wichita State University
Seminar title: *TBA*
- 2/22 Fred Bonner II, Prairie View A&M University
Seminar title: *TBA*
- 2/29 Will Dichtel, Northwestern University
Seminar title: *TBA*
- 3/7 Jillian L. Dempsey, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Seminar title: *Kinetic Barriers to Metal Hydride Complex Formation in Fuel-forming Catalysis*
- 3/14 Spring break
- 3/21 Mark A. Olson, Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi
Seminar title: *TBA*
- 3/28 Emily Que, UT Austin
Seminar title: *TBA*
- 4/4 Kyle M. Lancaster, Cornell University
Seminar title: *Ligand-Centric Perspectives on Inorganic Reactivity*
- 4/11 Daniel Zuckerman, Oregon Health & Science University
Seminar title: *Biophysical computations: Analyzing experiments and accelerating molecular*

simulations

- 4/18 David B Berkowitz, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Seminar title: *TBA*
- 4/25 Zili Wu, Ork Ridge National Laboratory
Seminar title: *TBA*
- 5/2 Jonathan S. Lindsey, North Carolina State University
Seminar title: *TBA*

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 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.

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
- **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>)

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) 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.

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.