Instructor

Prof. Boyd Goodson
Office: Neckers 113
Office Hours: by appointment (or let’s talk after class)
Phone: 618-453-6427; E-mail: bgoodson@chem.siu.edu

Text (and other materials)

There is no textbook for this seminar class; the exact topics presented and discussed are up to you!

Course Times

Monday 4:00-5:00 pm (in addition to select seminars by visiting faculty)

Course Location

Neckers 218 (in addition to select seminars by visiting faculty)

Course Description

- These sections comprise a once-per-week graduate seminar required for graduate students in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry seeking either the MS or PhD degrees.
- Grading for this course is audit or S/U for most students, but some of you will be required to take the course for a grade.
- Generally speaking each student is required to give at least one seminar over the course of the semester.
  - For those not taking the course for a grade, the seminar must be at least 30 minutes but not more than 45 minutes.
  - For those taking the course for a grade, the seminar must be at least 45 minutes but not more than 1 hour.
  - We may need to double-up on some days.
- For a given presentation, a student may choose their own topic.
  - For those not taking the course for a grade, the students should select a paper in the fields of physical, inorganic, or materials chemistry. If the topic concerns a short communication, the student must also add in material from other papers.
  - For those taking the course for a grade, the student's topic should be in the same subjects (physical, inorganic, or materials chemistry), but is welcome to have their talk primarily concern one major paper, but is expected to provide a more detailed and rigorous background from multiple sources. The use of additional papers is encouraged (and is required for communications).
  - The "primary" papers should have been published in 2011 or later, and should be from a proper, peer-reviewed journal.
  - **Important:** the student should provide a copy of the paper and an abstract (less than one page, a large paragraph is fine) to everyone in the class at least 1 week (7 days) prior to the date of that student's seminar.
  - **NOTE:** Failure to follow these rules with one seminar may result in the student having to repeat the process with a new paper.
- Generally speaking, attendance is mandatory. Participation (manifested in the form of being present, attentive, asking questions, and providing constructive feedback) is also mandatory.
**Additional Notes**

1) The course syllabus is intended to provide students with basic information concerning the course. The syllabus can be viewed as a “blueprint” for the course; changes in the syllabus can be made and students will be informed of any substantial changes.

2) Cell phones, tablets, laptops, Blackberries, iPhones or other digital devices must be turned off and/or in vibrate mode in class. Students engaged in disruptive behavior such as texting, web surfing, game play, or reading the paper will be asked to leave the class. If you must leave the room to answer a call, please do so quietly.