Course Description
CHE 385 covers topics pertinent to all areas of chemistry: scientific ethics, chemical literature and information retrieval, technical writing, and oral presentation. The course is normally taken concurrently with either Intermediate Synthetic and Spectroscopic Laboratory Techniques (CHE 384) or Chemical Instrumentation Laboratory (CHE 304), but an alternative arrangement is possible with the permission of the instructor. Satisfactory completion of CHE 385 is required for chemistry majors to fulfill the University’s upper-division writing requirement.

Meeting Times
Class meets Thursdays 10:00am-12:00pm in Chemistry 412.

Instructors
Prof. Carlos Simmerling
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Dr. Zachary Katsamanis
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zachary.katsamanis@stonybrook.edu

Course Materials

Required
Kandel, M; Hsiao, B. S. CHE 385: Tools of Chemistry Workbook, Spring 2012 (can be downloaded from Blackboard)

Committee on Science, Engineering, and Public Policy, National Academy of Sciences, National Academy of Engineering, and Institute of Medicine. (2009) On Being a Scientist: Responsible Conduct in Research, 3rd edition (can be downloaded at from Blackboard )

Recommended


Copies of the three recommended books can be found on reserve (A Writer’s Reference; The Ethical Chemist) or in the reference section (The ACS Style Guide) in the Chemistry Library.
Assignments

Writing assignments will be given throughout the semester. Some assignments (usually first drafts) will be peer-critiqued in class. For these, you should bring a hard copy of your completed assignment to class. Some assignments (usually revised drafts) will be submitted to the instructors electronically using the electronic submission function in Blackboard. Late electronic submissions will result in a lower grade on the assignment. In CHE 385, you will use the data obtained in CHE 304 or 384 to write your reports.

Evaluation

CHE 385 will be graded based on the following.

- **Attendance**
  You are expected to attend all class sessions and to arrive with the day's assignment completed (and in hand, if a hard copy is required). You will be allowed one exception. Any other absences will result in a lower course grade. Please consult with the instructors as early as possible in the case of an unavoidable situation.

- **Library and ChemDraw assignments**

- **Writing assignments and writing portfolio**
  - Abstract of journal article
  - Ethics essay
  - Sections of a lab report (CHE 384—Ferrocene lab; CHE 304—Passive Circuits lab)
    During the semester, you will focus on writing each section of a lab report (abstract, introduction, experimental, etc.).
  - Portfolio
    - Either the ethics essay or abstract of a journal article.
    - Your complete Ferrocene or Passive Circuits lab.
    - A report on any other lab experiment from CHE 384 or CHE 304.

We strongly encourage you to revise the first two papers before you submit the portfolio, based on comments from the instructors and your peers. Any improved paper will result in the original paper grade being replaced by the revised paper.

The portfolio is due **Tuesday April 23**.

To earn a good grade, you must demonstrate competence in writing by the end of the course. If the feedback you receive on early writing assignments indicates that your writing is not satisfactory, you should make use of office hours and the Writing Center (<http://www.stonybrook.edu/writrhet/wcabout.shtml>, Humanities Building Room 2009) to improve your writing during the course of the semester.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class Date</th>
<th>writing assignment(s)</th>
<th>In class</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/31</td>
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<td>- Intro to course&lt;br&gt;- Writing abstracts</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/7</td>
<td>First draft abstract (hard copy)</td>
<td>- Writing introductions&lt;br&gt;- Writing experimental sections&lt;br&gt;- Peer review of abstracts</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/14</td>
<td>Final draft abstract (electronic copy)</td>
<td>ChemDraw tutorial (chem. 434)&lt;br&gt;Group A – 10:00-11:00am&lt;br&gt;Group B – 11:00am-noon</td>
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<td>2/21</td>
<td>Group B: First draft of Introduction section of ‘Passive Circuits’ (CHE 304), or ‘Ferrocene’ (CHE 384) lab report (hard copy) ChemDraw exercises (electronic copy)</td>
<td>Group A - library resources tutorial&lt;br&gt;Group B – Writing results and discussion Peer review of Introduction</td>
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<td>2/28</td>
<td>Group A: First draft of Introduction section of ‘Passive Circuits’ (CHE 304), or ‘Ferrocene’ (CHE 384) lab report (hard copy)</td>
<td>Group B - library resources tutorial&lt;br&gt;Group A – Writing results and discussion Peer review of Introduction</td>
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<td>3/7</td>
<td>Revised Introduction section (electronic)&lt;br&gt;Library assignment (electronic)</td>
<td>Class cancelled</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/14</td>
<td>First draft of Abstract and Experimental (hard copy)</td>
<td>- Ethics&lt;br&gt;- Peer review of Abstract and Experimental</td>
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<td>3/21</td>
<td>Spring Break</td>
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<td>3/28</td>
<td>Revised Abstract and Experimental sections (electronic)&lt;br&gt;First draft of Results and Discussion section (hard copy)</td>
<td>- Graduate schools and careers&lt;br&gt;- Writing resumes and cover letters&lt;br&gt;- Peer review of Results and Discussion</td>
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<td>4/4</td>
<td>Revised Results and Discussion (electronic)</td>
<td>- Ethics group discussion</td>
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<td>4/11</td>
<td>All: portfolio documents (hard copy)&lt;br&gt;Ethics essay (electronic)</td>
<td>- Oral presentations discussion&lt;br&gt;- Peer review of portfolio documents</td>
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<td>4/18</td>
<td>All: portfolio (electronic) due Tuesday, 4/23</td>
<td>Oral presentations</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/25</td>
<td>All: portfolio (electronic) due Tuesday, 4/23</td>
<td>Oral presentations</td>
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<td>5/2</td>
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<td>Oral presentations</td>
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**Cell Phones and Electronic Devices**
During regular class sessions, cell phones must be either in ‘vibrate mode’ or turned off. Calls cannot be answered. Text messaging is not allowed during class.

**Disability Support Services (DSS) Statement**
If you have a physical, psychological, medical, or learning disability that may impact your course work, please contact Disability Support Services (631) 632-6748 or http://studentaffairs.stonybrook.edu/dss/. They will determine with you what accommodations are necessary and appropriate. All information and documentation is confidential. Students who require assistance during emergency evacuation are encouraged to discuss their needs with their professors and Disability Support Services. For procedures and information go to the following website: [http://www.stonybrook.edu/ehs/fire/disabilities/asp](http://www.stonybrook.edu/ehs/fire/disabilities/asp).

**Academic Integrity Statement**
Each student must pursue his or her academic goals honestly and be personally accountable for all submitted work. Representing another person's work as your own is always wrong. Faculty are required to report any suspected instance of academic dishonesty to the Academic Judiciary. While we allow and encourage students to discuss the ‘clicker quiz questions’ during lecture, submitting answers from another student’s ‘clicker’ or allowing another student to submit answers from your ‘clicker’ is considered academic dishonesty and will be reported. For more comprehensive information on academic integrity, including categories of academic dishonesty, please refer to the academic judiciary website at [http://www.stonybrook.edu/uaa/academicjudiciary/](http://www.stonybrook.edu/uaa/academicjudiciary/).

**Critical Incident Management**
Stony Brook University expects students to respect the rights, privileges, and property of other people. Faculty are required to report to the Office of Judicial Affairs any disruptive behavior that interrupts their ability to teach, compromises the safety of the learning environment, and/or inhibits students’ ability to learn.