Chemistry Capstone

Instructor: Dr. Edith Osborne
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Phone: 325-486-6629
Office: Cav 218

Office Hours: MWF 11-11:50 and Tues 10-11 or by appointment

Course Information

Course Time and Location
MWF 9:00 am – 9:50 am in Cavness 215

Course Description
A critical review of chemical topics that requires students to integrate the knowledge and skills introduced across the curriculum. The capstone experience requires technical writing and verbal presentation.

Prerequisite and Co-requisite Courses
Must be taken in the spring semester before graduation.

Prerequisite Skills
Accessing Internet websites, using ASU Library resources, and proficiency with Microsoft Word and/or PowerPoint are expectations of CHEM 4301.

Student Learning Outcomes
Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:
  ● Demonstrate technical, analytical, and communication skills in the area of chemistry and biochemistry.
  ● Analyze complex chemical problems and draw logical conclusions.
  ● Evaluate and propose solutions to problems in professional ethics.
Course Objectives
During this course, students will be:

- Learning to apply course material (to improve thinking, problem solving, and decisions)
- Developing skills in expressing oneself orally or in writing
- Learning how to find and use resources for answering questions or solving problems

Course Delivery
This is a blended course with roughly 60% of the course delivered online via Blackboard¹. The class will include online activities, and it will also require attending in class presentations by guest speakers and by class members. Please pay close attention to the course calendar in Blackboard, which may be adjusted during the semester due to the availability of in class presenters.

Required Texts and Materials
No required textbook.

Technology Requirements
To successfully complete this course, students need to have access to a computer with the Microsoft Office Suite, including Word, Excel, and Powerpoint. Students will also need access to the internet, a webcam, and the ability to download some free, open source software during the semester. The ability to print documents may also be required.

Communication
Faculty will respond to email and/or telephone messages within 24 hours during working hours Monday through Friday. Weekend messages may not be returned until Monday.

Written communication via email: All private communication will be done exclusively through your ASU email address. Check frequently for announcements and policy changes. In your emails to faculty, include the course name and section number in your subject line.

Virtual communication: Office hours and/or advising may be done with the assistance of the telephone, Collaborate, Skype, etc.
Grading

**Evaluation and Grades**
Course grades will be determined as indicated in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Percent of Total Grade</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Activities and homework</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review Article</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presentations</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Face to Face Attendance and Participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MFT in Chemistry (participation mandatory)</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100%</td>
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</table>

**Grading System**
Course grades will be dependent upon completing course requirements and meeting the student learning outcomes.

The following grading scale is in use for this course:
- A ≥ 90%
- B ≥ 80%
- C ≥ 70%
- D ≥ 60%
- F < 60% (Grades are not rounded up)

**Assignment and Activity Descriptions**
The online activities and guest lectures will be structured to include student participation, and participation will be assessed as part of the course grade.

The scores for the review article and for the presentations include progress assignments, such a topic selection, outline, and first submission.

The MFT (Major Field Test) points received in this class are for completion of the MFT in Chemistry. The actual points received on the MFT exam will not be included in the Capstone course score. Taking the MFT is mandatory to receive a grade in the class and for graduation.
**Late assignments:** All assignments will be due at the beginning of class or at a designated time on Blackboard. Late assignments will not be accepted.

**Grading corrections:** Any discussion of corrections must be made within three weekdays of the return of the assignment.

**Courtesy:** For in class activities, please be on time, refrain from eating, and turn off cell phones. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each face to face meeting.

### General Policies Related to This Course

All students are required to follow the policies and procedures presented in these documents:

- Angelo State University Student Handbook²
- Angelo State University Catalog³

### Academic Integrity

Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in all work. Any student found guilty of any form of dishonesty in academic work is subject of disciplinary action and possible expulsion from ASU.

The College of Science and Engineering adheres to the university’s Statement of Academic Integrity.⁴

### Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

ASU is committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs or activities of the university, or be subjected to discrimination by the university, as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments of 2008 (ADAAA) and subsequent legislation.

Student Disability Services is located in the Office of Student Affairs, and is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability. It is the student’s responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting an employee of the Office of Student Affairs, in the Houston Harte University Center, Room 112, or contacting the department via email at ADA@angelo.edu. For more information about the application process and requirements, visit the Student Disability Services website.⁵
The employee charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing accommodation requests is:

Dallas Swafford  
Director of Student Disability Services  
Office of Student Affairs  
325-942-2047  
dallas.swafford@angelo.edu  
Houston Harte University Center, Room 112

**Incomplete Grade Policy**

It is policy that incomplete grades be reserved for student illness or personal misfortune. Please contact faculty if you have serious illness or a personal misfortune that would keep you from completing course work. Documentation may be required. See ASU Operating Policy 10.11 [Grading Procedures](#) for more information.

**Plagiarism**

Plagiarism is a serious topic covered in ASU’s [Academic Integrity policy](#) in the Student Handbook. Plagiarism is the action or practice of taking someone else’s work, idea, etc., and passing it off as one’s own. Plagiarism is literary theft.

In your discussions and/or your papers, it is unacceptable to copy word-for-word without quotation marks and the source of the quotation. It is expected that you will summarize or paraphrase ideas giving appropriate credit to the source both in the body of your paper and the reference list.

Papers are subject to be evaluated for originality. Resources to help you understand this policy better are available at the [ASU Writing Center](#).

**Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Days**

A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. See ASU Operating Policy 10.19 Student Absence for [Observance of Religious Holy Day](#) for more information.

**Title IX at Angelo State University**

The University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination including: sexual assault, sex-based discrimination, sexual exploitation, sexual harassment, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence and/or dating
violence), and stalking. As a faculty member, I am a Responsible Employee meaning that I am obligated by law and ASU policy to report any allegations I am notified of to the Office of Title IX Compliance.

Students are encouraged to report any incidents of sexual misconduct directly to ASU’s Office of Title IX Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator at:

Michelle Miller, J.D.
Special Assistant to the President and Title IX Coordinator
Mayer Administration Building, Room 210
325-486-6357
michelle.boone@angelo.edu

You may also file a report online24/7.

If you are wishing to speak to someone about an incident in confidence you may contact the University Health Clinic and Counseling Center at 325-942-2173 or the ASU Crisis Helpline at 325-486-6345.

For more information, visit the Title IX website.11

**Required Use of Masks/Facial Coverings by Students**

As a member of the Texas Tech University System, Angelo State University has adopted the mandatory [Facial Covering Policy](#) to ensure a safe and healthy classroom experience. Current research on the COVID-19 virus suggests there is a significant reduction in the potential for transmission of the virus from person to person by wearing a mask/facial covering that covers the nose and mouth areas. Therefore, in compliance with the university policy students in this class are required to wear a mask/facial covering before, during, and after class. Faculty members may also ask you to display your daily screening badge as a prerequisite to enter the classroom. You are also asked to maintain safe distancing practices to the best of your ability. For the safety of everyone, any student not appropriately wearing a mask/facial covering will be asked to leave the classroom immediately. The student will be responsible to make up any missed class content or work. Continued non-compliance with the Texas Tech University System Policy may result in disciplinary action through the Office of Student Conduct.
## Modifications to the Syllabus

This syllabus, including grade evaluation and course schedule, is subject to modification. In particular, the COVID-19 pandemic may require significant changes in course delivery and content on potentially short notice.

### Course Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week of</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 25</td>
<td>Types of Sources</td>
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<td>February 1</td>
<td>Library Resources</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 8</td>
<td>Literature Searching and Databases</td>
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<td><strong>February 9: Review Article Topic Due</strong></td>
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<td>February 15</td>
<td>Plagiarism</td>
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<td>Presentations and Powerpoints</td>
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<td><strong>February 17: Review Article Outline Due</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>February 17: Submit journal club article</strong></td>
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<td>February 22</td>
<td>Figure drawing with Powerpoint</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Journal Club Presentations</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>March 1</td>
<td>Figure drawing with Inkscape</td>
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<td><strong>March 1: MFT Information Posted on ASU Testing Center Web Page</strong></td>
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<td>March 8</td>
<td>Introduction to grants</td>
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<td>Research compliance</td>
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<td><strong>March 10: Submit 1000 words of review</strong></td>
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<td>March 15</td>
<td>Grants continued</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>March 20: Submit grant budget</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>March 22</td>
<td>Logical Arguments</td>
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<td>March 29</td>
<td><strong>March 30: Submit Review article for Peer Feedback</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>April 2: Spring holiday</strong></td>
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<td>April 5</td>
<td>Resumes, CVs, cover letters, job searching, applications</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 12</td>
<td><strong>April 14: Submit Final Review Article</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>April 19</td>
<td><strong>April 21: Submit Review Article Seminar Powerpoint</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>April 26</td>
<td>Review Article Seminars</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>April 30: Last Day to Drop</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>May 3</td>
<td>Professional Ethics: Case Studies</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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1. [https://blackboard.angelo.edu](https://blackboard.angelo.edu)
2. [https://www.angelo.edu/current-students/student-handbook/](https://www.angelo.edu/current-students/student-handbook/)
3. [https://www.angelo.edu/academics/catalog/](https://www.angelo.edu/academics/catalog/)
5. [https://www.angelo.edu/current-students/disability-services/](https://www.angelo.edu/current-students/disability-services/)
6. [https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14197-op-1011-grading-procedures](https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14197-op-1011-grading-procedures)