

CHM1490: Physical Chemistry Seminar

Course Syllabus, Fall/Winter 2021/2022

Co-ordinators:

Fall: Prof. Gilbert C. Walker, LM 145, gilbert.walker@utoronto.ca

Winter: Prof. Mark W.B. Wilson, LM 241, mark.w.b.wilson@utoronto.ca

Note: E-mail is preferred. Only messages from UofT accounts will garner responses.

Website: The syllabus, on-line seminar feedback form, and course announcements are/will be posted on Quercus. Log in with your UTORid at: q.utoronto.ca

Seminar Location and Time: Seminars will generally take place every week during term at 11am on Tuesdays. Exceptions will be noted on the Seminar Schedule, maintained on Quercus.

Due to COVID-19, all seminars will be held virtually until further notice.

Up-to-date instructions regarding the platforms used are available on Quercus.

Minimum Technical Requirements: A platform capable of running Zoom & accessing Quercus.

Course Description: This seminar series provides graduate students with the opportunity to learn about contemporary research in Physical and Theoretical Chemistry and hone their skills as scientific communicators. It also serves as a forum for M.Sc. students to present their [exit seminar](#), and for Ph.D. students to [present their research](#) (typically in years 2&4 of their program). Seminars will also be given by experts in the field on a range of associated topics. Students are also expected to attend Departmental Colloquia sponsored by faculty in Physical Chemistry or Chemical Physics. Relevant seminars and colloquia from other chemistry disciplines may occasionally be recommended. Training in the preparation and delivery of research seminar will be provided.

Course Evaluation: Students will be evaluated on a pass-or-fail basis based on their participation, which will be monitored by the course co-ordinators. All students are required to attend seminars regularly and encouraged to ask questions.

Additionally, registered students are expected to provide brief written comment on each presentation, using the on-line form provided on Quercus. *The expectation is that each student will provide constructive feedback on **more than half** of the seminars offered in 2021/2022.*¹

A course coordinator will provide feedback on each student presentation via 1) a brief informal discussion to occur immediately after the presentation, and 2) in written form thereafter, drawing from the comments submitted by peers via the constructive feedback form.

Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course—please discuss in-class accommodations and supports with the instructor. However, accommodations involving assessment will generally require consultation with a University Disability Counsellor. Accordingly, students are encouraged to register with [Accessibility Services](#) as soon as possible, to ensure that there is time to make arrangements.

In a similar spirit, the University provides reasonable accommodation of the needs of students who observe religious holy days other than those already accommodated by statutory holidays. Students have a responsibility to alert members of the teaching staff in a timely fashion to upcoming

¹Though the schedule for upcoming year has not been finalized, the submission of feedback for *nine* or more seminars/associated Colloquia would have been consistent with satisfactory attendance last year (2020/2021).

religious observances and anticipated absences and instructors will make a reasonable effort to avoid scheduling synchronous activities at these times.

Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion:

The University of Toronto is committed to equity, human rights and respect for diversity. All members of the learning environment in this course should strive to create an atmosphere of mutual respect where all members of our community can express themselves, engage with each other, and respect one another's differences. U of T does not condone discrimination or harassment against any persons or communities.

Copyright & Video Recording:

Elements of this course, including your participation during seminars, may be recorded on video and made available to students in the course for asynchronous viewing after each session.

Course videos and materials belong to your instructor, the University, and/or other sources depending on the specific facts of each situation and are protected by copyright. Please do not copy or share any course or student materials/videos without the explicit permission of the instructor.

For questions about the recording/use of videos in which you appear, please contact a co-ordinator.

Academic Integrity is fundamental to learning and scholarship. Students are expected to be familiar with the University of Toronto's [Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters](#)—particularly Section B.i.1., which gives examples of student actions considered an offence against the Code.