

CHM1490: Physical Chemistry Seminar

Course Syllabus, Fall/Winter 2020/2021

Co-ordinators:

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

Winter: Prof. Gilbert C. Walker, LM 145, gilbert.walker@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 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.

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 2020-2021.*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.

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.

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 (2019–2020).