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CHEM 395.01: Teaching Peer-Led Chemistry

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Chemistry 395 Teaching Peer-Led Chemistry
Autumn 2000

Instructor: Prof. Mark S. Cracolice, CP 101A, markc@selway.umt.edu

Office Hours: MWF 8:15 AM–9:00 AM and by appointment. Please feel free to stop by anytime my door is open, however.

Prerequisite: Completion of Chem 161–2 or the equivalent with B's or better and consent of the instructor based on the Workshop leader application.

Course Purpose: Introduction to teaching chemistry using cooperative learning methods.

Meetings: M 4:10 PM–5:00 PM, JOUR 306
MWF 2:10 PM–3:00 PM, ULH 101

Format: Weekly meetings will begin with a brief discussion of issues of concern of the Group Leaders. Reviewing next week's assignment will constitute the bulk of the meeting.

Schedule: T 5 Sep Introductions, Responsibilities, Prep for Week 1, Workshop 1
M 11 Sep Prep for Week 2, Workshop App A/B
M 18 Sep Prep for Week 3, Workshop 2
M 25 Sep Prep for Week 4, Workshop Nomenclature
M 02 Oct Prep for Week 5, Workshop 3
M 09 Oct Prep for Week 6, Workshop 4
M 16 Oct Prep for Week 7, Workshop 6
M 23 Oct Prep for Week 8, Workshop 7
M 30 Oct Prep for Week 9, Workshop 8
M 06 Nov Prep for Week 10, Workshop 9
M 13 Nov Prep for Week 11
M 20 Nov Prep for Week 12, Workshop 10
M 27 Nov Prep for Week 13, Workshop 11
M 04 Dec Prep for Week 14, Workshop 5
M 11 Dec Prep for Week 15, Evaluations
R 21 Dec Final Essay Due, 5 PM

Grading: Grading is based on fulfillment of the obligations of your Workshop Leader Contract. We begin by assuming that you have a perfect A at 100 points. Failure to fulfill your obligations results in point deductions as follows:

1) Conducts weekly two-hour Workshop sessions as scheduled.
   −20 for missing a session without finding another leader to take your place and notifying the Workshop coordinator.

2) Prepares for Workshop sessions by previewing the Workshop material and reviewing pertinent chemistry principles and concepts.
   −1 to −5 for evidence of lack of preparation during classroom visits.

3) Assesses student homework assignments, assigns homework grades per specifications of the course instructor, and records those grades. This must be completed three times per week.
   Not done this semester.

4) Enrolls in Chemistry 395, Teaching Methods in Cooperative Learning, and completes all assigned work for the course.
   −1 to −15 for a substandard final essay; −20 for no final essay.

5) Informally evaluates the progress of students via leader logs.
   −5 for a late weekly log; −10 for no weekly log.

6) Maintains attendance records for the workshop.
   −5 for returning records late; −10 if records must be maintained by someone else.
7) Participates in research and surveys on Workshop Chemistry. Considered on a case-by-case basis.

Additional deductions may be made for cases beyond the scope of these criteria at the discretion of the instructor.

Repeated violations of these standards, evidence of inappropriate behavior, and/or any illegal acts related to your status as a Workshop Leader and representative of The University of Montana will result in termination of employment and the assignment of a grade of F for the course.

A 90% 90–100  
B 80% 80–89  
C 70% 70–79  
D 60% 60–69  
F < 60% ≤ 59

Deadlines:

*Homework Grades*
Not done this semester.

*Workshop Grades*
Return on Fridays.

*Leader Logs*
Submit by email as soon as possible after the Workshop session but no later than Thursday, 11:59 PM for the Thursday through Wednesday week preceding.

*Final Essay*
Thursday 21 December, 5 PM.

Drops: Please make your final decision about whether or not you want to be a workshop leader before the course begins. If you should find that it is necessary to drop the course during the semester, please see me to discuss the situation.

Other: Any student in this course who has a disability that may prevent him or her from fully demonstrating his or her abilities should contact me personally as soon as possible so we can discuss accommodations necessary to ensure full participation and facilitate your educational opportunities.

This course syllabus is not a contract; it is a tentative outline of course policies. Changes may be made before, during, or after the semester at my discretion.