

Chemistry 490 – Fall 2008
Special Topics in Chemistry: Drug Development

Instructor:

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Course Materials:

- Textbook: Drug Discovery & Development, Volume 1 (Drug Discovery) by M.S. Chorghade, Wiley & Sons (2006) ISBN 978-0-471-39848-6
- Occasionally material will be placed on the bulletin board outside my office door for students to copy (instances when this is necessary will be announced in class).
- A laptop computer with ChemBioOffice Ultra 2008 installed. The College owns a site license for this software and makes it available to students free of charge. To obtain and install a copy of this software go to <http://download.bridgew.edu>, click on the tab labeled “More Software” then on the link titled “ChemOffice”; from there follow the instructions very carefully and exactly.
- Course website (<http://webhost.bridgew.edu/fgorga/courses/Drugs/index.html>): Announcements, due dates and materials related to this course will all made available here. Make sure to bookmark this site and check back frequently.

Introduction:

This course will be divided into two sections. The first of these will deal with the drug discovery process in a general way and will include material dealing with “cutting edge” technologies used to facilitate the process. The second part of the course will involve the “case study” approach in which we will examine the application of the general ideas (developed in the first part) to the development of specific drugs.

I am hoping to have occasional guest lecturers from the local pharmaceutical/biotech industry; however at this junction none are scheduled.

The course will be run “seminar style”. Reading will be assigned for each class. Students will be expected to have read the assigned material before class and to come to class prepared to discuss and expand upon the material they have read.

Assessment of Student Learning:

Reading quizzes

Classes for which readings have been assigned will begin with a short quiz (1 – 3 questions; 5-10 minutes) designed to assure that everyone has done the day's reading. These quizzes will count for 30% of the final grade. There will be no make-up quizzes; two absences for the semester will be allowed without penalty; beyond that students who are absent will earn a grade of zero for each quiz missed.

Term Papers

Two term papers (4000 \pm 10% words, not including figures, bibliography, etc.) are required. One will be due near mid-term and one during the final exam period (the exact dates will be announced in class and on the course website). Each of these papers will count for 30% of the final grade.

Since good writing requires multiple cycles of drafts and revisions. Students will be required to submit two rough drafts of each paper (well ahead of the final due date). The instructor will make comments on the initial draft; each draft is expected to show signs of significant reworking when compared to the previous one. Due dates for drafts will be announced in class and on the course website.

Class Participation

In order to be successful, seminar-style courses require active involvement by all participants. Thus, 10% of the final grade will be determined by the instructor's assessment of the quality and quantity of each student's participation. Students are reminded that one cannot participate in the class discussion if one is not present. Therefore, excessive absences will affect this component of the grade.

Plagiarism

I take plagiarism seriously; it is the greatest sin an academic (faculty member or student) can commit. My thoughts and policies regarding plagiarism are detailed in a separate document which is incorporated herein by reference.