

CHEM 1907

Fall 2018

Syllabus

Th 1:00-2:40 p.m., Kolthoff Hall 134

Instructor Information

Dr. Janie Salmon

djsalmon@umn.edu

Office: Smith Hall 3

625-5066

Office Hours

Office hours will be held TBA. Appointments (set up by email) are also encouraged if office hours do not fit your schedule. I am always happy to set up a meeting to talk about anything in the course or at the University of Minnesota. To set up a meeting, please email me at djsalmon@umn.edu at least 1 business (Monday - Friday) day before you would like to meet.

Class Background Information

Cooking is a widely-known (and widely-appreciated) application of chemistry. In this course, we will discuss the chemical principles behind topics such as nutritional value of food, the role of gluten in baking, caramelization/roasting, and molecular gastronomy. Relevant concepts from biochemistry, neuroscience, and materials science will also be addressed. In addition, this freshman seminar will allow you to connect with your peers and faculty as you explore the University of Minnesota.

A liberally educated person is one who can understand complex issues, find credible information, analyze that information, problem-solve, and draw reasonable conclusions based on facts. This course will develop these skills and prepare you to be an informed citizen and life-long learner.

Required Textbooks & Materials

The Food Lab by J. Kenji Alt-Lopez

Additional readings will also be provided via the course website.

Class Website

There is a class Canvas website associated with this seminar course that you must visit frequently to keep up with the material. ***You are also responsible for any announcements made in class and any information on the website.***

Lecture Canvas Site

This site ([CHEM 1907 Section 002 Fall 2018](#)) is where you will find any information associated with this course. It will contain a class calendar, syllabus posting, and many resources to help you succeed in the course. You will find your course component grades posted here under “Grades”.

Accessing Canvas

1. Connect to myu.umn.edu, log in, and click on “My Courses” tab and select the appropriate class link

OR...

2. Go directly to canvas.umn.edu, log in, and select the appropriate class link.

Class Work

Class Participation

Attendance and participation are very important in this class! You are responsible for all material and reading covered. More than two unexcused absences will result in a failing grade.

Minute Papers

Every week submit a concise summary describing the major topics discussed in that class and readings. These will be submitted via Canvas. These summaries are limited to <150 words and are due by 5:00 p.m. on Sundays.

In-Class Group Presentation, with food tasting:

Groups will be responsible for bringing in the results of a cooking experiment and presenting the background information on an assigned topic. Presentations will be approximately 30 minutes long. More details will be discussed in class.

Research Paper

Each student will write a 10-page research paper on a related topic of their choosing. Students will be required to submit via e-mail a proposed topic no later than Friday November 2. The final paper will be due Wednesday December 12 by 5:00 p.m. All late

assignments will be penalized 10% per day that they are submitted after the deadline (including weekend days). No papers will be accepted after Monday December 17.

Grades and Grading Policies

Course Participation 10%

Minute Papers 20%

Group Presentation 40%

Research Paper 30%

University grading policies and guidelines can be found at:
<http://policy.umn.edu/Policies/Education/Education/GRADINGTRANSCRIPTS.html>

Policy Statements

Overlapping & Back-to-Back Courses

Enrolling in overlapping or back-to-back courses that does not allow enough travel time to arrive at our class meetings on time is prohibited. For more information, please see:

<http://policy.umn.edu/Policies/Education/Education/OVERLAPPINGCLASSES.html>

Use of Personal Electronic Devices in the Classroom

Using personal electronic devices in the classroom setting can hinder instruction and learning, not only for the student using the device but also for other students in the class. To this end, the University establishes the right of each faculty member to determine if and how personal electronic devices are allowed to be used in the classroom. For complete information, please reference: <http://policy.umn.edu/education/studentresp>.

Student Conduct Code

The University seeks an environment that promotes academic achievement and integrity, that is protective of free inquiry, and that serves the educational mission of the University. Similarly, the University seeks a community that is free from violence, threats, and intimidation; that is respectful of the rights, opportunities, and welfare of students, faculty, staff, and guests of the University; and that does not threaten the physical or mental health or safety of members of the University community.

As a student at the University you are expected adhere to Board of Regents Policy: *Student Conduct Code*. To review the Student Conduct Code, please see: [http://regents.umn.edu/sites/regents.umn.edu/files/policies/Student Conduct Code.pdf](http://regents.umn.edu/sites/regents.umn.edu/files/policies/Student%20Conduct%20Code.pdf).

Note that the conduct code specifically addresses disruptive classroom conduct, which means "engaging in behavior that substantially or repeatedly interrupts either the instructor's ability to teach or student learning. The classroom extends to any setting where a student is engaged in work toward academic credit or satisfaction of program-based requirements or related activities."

Scholastic Dishonesty

You are expected to do your own academic work and cite sources as necessary. Failing to do so is scholastic dishonesty. Scholastic dishonesty means plagiarizing; cheating on assignments or examinations; engaging in unauthorized collaboration on academic work; taking, acquiring, or using test materials without faculty permission; submitting false or incomplete records of academic achievement; acting alone or in cooperation with another to falsify records or to obtain dishonestly grades, honors, awards, or professional endorsement; altering, forging, or misusing a University academic record; or fabricating or falsifying data, research procedures, or data analysis. (Student Conduct Code: [http://regents.umn.edu/sites/regents.umn.edu/files/policies/Student Conduct Code.pdf](http://regents.umn.edu/sites/regents.umn.edu/files/policies/Student%20Conduct%20Code.pdf)) If it is determined that a student has cheated, the student may be given an "F" or an "N" for the course, and may face additional sanctions from the University. For additional information, please see: <http://policy.umn.edu/education/instructorresp>.

The Office for Community Standards has compiled a useful list of Frequently Asked Questions pertaining to scholastic dishonesty: <https://communitystandards.umn.edu/avoid-violations/avoiding-scholastic-...> If you have additional questions, please clarify with your instructor for the course. Your instructor can respond to your specific questions regarding what would constitute scholastic dishonesty in the context of a particular class-e.g., whether collaboration on assignments is permitted, requirements and methods for citing sources, if electronic aids are permitted or prohibited during an exam.

Makeup Work for Legitimate Absences

Students will not be penalized for absence during the semester due to unavoidable or legitimate circumstances. Such circumstances include verified illness, participation in intercollegiate athletic events, subpoenas, jury duty, military service, bereavement, and religious observances. Such circumstances do not include voting in local, state, or national elections. For complete information, please see: <http://policy.umn.edu/education/makeupwork>.

Appropriate Student Use of Class Notes and Course Materials

Taking notes is a means of recording information but more importantly of personally absorbing and integrating the educational experience. However, broadly disseminating class notes beyond the classroom community or accepting compensation for taking and distributing classroom notes undermines instructor interests in their intellectual work product while not substantially furthering instructor and student interests in effective learning. Such actions violate shared norms and standards of the academic community. For additional information, please see: <http://policy.umn.edu/education/studentresp>.

Grading and Transcripts

The University utilizes plus and minus grading on a 4.000 cumulative grade point scale. For additional information, please refer to: <http://policy.umn.edu/education/gradingtranscripts>.

Mental Health and Stress Management

As a student you may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to learning, such as strained relationships, increased anxiety, alcohol/drug problems, feeling down, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. These mental health concerns or stressful events may lead to diminished academic performance and may reduce your ability to participate in daily activities. University of Minnesota services are available to assist you. You can learn more about the broad range of confidential mental health services available on campus via the Student Mental Health Website: <http://www.mentalhealth.umn.edu>.

Sexual Harassment

"Sexual harassment" means unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and/or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature. Such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work or academic performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working or academic environment in any University activity or program. Such behavior is not acceptable in the University setting. For additional information, please consult Board of Regents Policy: <http://regents.umn.edu/sites/regents.umn.edu/files/policies/SexHarassment.pdf>

Equity, Diversity, Equal Opportunity, and Affirmative Action

The University provides equal access to and opportunity in its programs and facilities, without regard to race, color, creed, religion, national origin, gender, age, marital status, disability, public assistance status, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression. For more information, please consult Board of Regents Policy: [http://regents.umn.edu/sites/regents.umn.edu/files/policies/Equity Diversity EO AA.pdf](http://regents.umn.edu/sites/regents.umn.edu/files/policies/Equity_Diversity_EO_AA.pdf).

Disability Resource Center

The University of Minnesota views disability as an important aspect of diversity, and is committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities for all students. The Disability Resource Center (DRC) is the campus office that collaborates with students who have disabilities to provide and/or arrange reasonable accommodations.

- If you have, or think you have, a disability in any area such as, mental health, attention, learning, chronic health, sensory, or physical, please contact the DRC office on your campus (UM Twin Cities - 612.626.1333) to arrange a confidential discussion regarding equitable access and reasonable accommodations.
- Students with short-term disabilities, such as a broken arm, can often work with instructors to minimize classroom barriers. In situations where additional assistance is needed, students should contact the DRC as noted above.
- If you are registered with the DRC and have a disability accommodation letter dated for this semester or this year, please contact your instructor early in the semester to review how the accommodations will be applied in the course.
- If you are registered with the DRC and have questions or concerns about your accommodations please contact your (access consultant/disability specialist).
- Additional information is available on the DRC website: (UM Twin Cities - <https://diversity.umn.edu/disability/>) or e-mail (UM Twin Cities - drc@umn.edu) with questions.

Academic Freedom and Responsibility

Academic freedom is a cornerstone of the University. Within the scope and content of the course as defined by the instructor, it includes the freedom to discuss relevant matters in the classroom. Along with this freedom comes responsibility. Students are encouraged to develop the capacity for critical judgment and to engage in a sustained and independent search for truth. Students are free to take reasoned exception to the views offered in any

course of study and to reserve judgment about matters of opinion, but they are responsible for learning the content of any course of study for which they are enrolled.*

Reports of concerns about academic freedom are taken seriously, and there are individuals and offices available for help. Contact the instructor, the Department Chair, your adviser, the associate dean of the college, or the Vice Provost for Faculty and Academic Affairs in the Office of the Provost.

* Language adapted from the American Association of University Professors "Joint Statement on Rights and Freedoms of Students".