

**CHEM 6050:** Current Topics in Chemistry, 1.0 credits

**Fall 2020 Lecture**

F, 10:50 – 11:40 am, Lafayette L202

**Instructor**

Prof. Matt Liptak

Innovation E336

(802) 656 – 0161

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**Office Hours**

MW, 1:00 – 2:00 PM, Innovation E336

**Prerequisites**

Graduate Standing

**Course Description**

From the course catalogue: “Survey of current topics in the *inorganic* chemistry literature.”

**Statement on Diversity and Inclusion**

I strive to create a classroom environment that supports students from a diverse set of backgrounds. Our society is composed of individual from diverse ethnic, socioeconomic, and educational backgrounds. Half of our society are women. I strongly believe that our best path forward to a stronger and more equitable society is to promote inclusiveness.

It is my expectation that every member of this class will also support diversity and inclusion. As a community, we should strive to uphold the ideals of Our Common Ground:

<https://www.uvm.edu/president/our-common-ground>

I welcome any suggestions as to how I can promote a diverse and inclusive classroom.

**Course Learning Objectives**

Upon completion of Chem 318, it is anticipated that you will:

1. Increase your understanding of aspects of inorganic chemistry outside your research project.
2. Demonstrate basic knowledge of other chemical sub-disciplines.
3. Improve your ability to critically analyze and critique the inorganic chemistry literature.

**Web Content**

Journal articles to be discussed will be posted to Blackboard (bb.uvm.edu). These materials are available for all current, UVM-affiliated, students, but they may not be shared off-campus without permission of the instructor.

**Attendance Policy**

You are required to attend: all Chem 318 seminars *and* all departmental seminars.

*The instructor reserves the right to change everything, with notice*

**Grading**

Your grade will be based upon your presentation of a current inorganic chemistry research article from the primary literature.

**Guidelines**

If you are registered for one credit, you will need to select a recent paper from the inorganic chemistry literature and prepare a brief presentation. If you are registered for zero credits, you may be asked to give a short presentation on your own research. On the weeks you are not presenting, you are expected to attend Chem 318B and participate in the discussion.

**Selection of a paper (literature seminars)**

You should select a paper from the recent inorganic chemistry literature, where I define *recent* as published after January 1, 2023. Your chosen paper should *not* be directly related to your own research. You may choose from a high impact, general interest journal (*JACS*, *Angewandte Chemie International Edition*, *Science*, or *Nature*). You may also choose from any Inorganic chemistry journal (e.g. *Inorganic Chemistry*, *Organometallics*, *Dalton Transactions*, etc.) All papers must be approved by me at least 7 days in advance.

**Presentation**

Your presentation should be relatively brief (20-30 minutes). Everyone has a different presentation style, but for me this would be approximately 10-15 PowerPoint slides. For a literature seminar, you should provide the audience with the appropriate background information, highlight the key results, and provide a critical commentary of the data and its relevance to the field of inorganic chemistry. For a research seminar, you should also provide the audience with more background information than may be typical for a group meeting due to the diversity of our supergroup.

**Time Commitment**

Preparing these presentations should not be exceedingly time-consuming. The expectation is that you will read the presented paper and relevant background papers. But, you are not expected to become an expert in the field overnight. You can also save yourself time by re-using the original artwork from the manuscript (with appropriate citations of course).

## University-wide Policies and Procedures

### Student Learning Accommodations

In keeping with University policy, any student with a documented disability interested in utilizing accommodations should contact SAS, the office of Disability Services on campus. SAS works with students and faculty in an interactive process to explore reasonable and appropriate accommodations, which are communicated to faculty in an accommodation letter. All students are strongly encouraged to meet with their faculty to discuss the accommodations they plan to use in each course. A student's accommodation letter lists those accommodations that will not be implemented until the student meets with their faculty to create a plan.

#### Contact SAS:

A170 Living/Learning Center;

802-656-7753;

[access@uvm.edu](mailto:access@uvm.edu)

[www.uvm.edu/access](http://www.uvm.edu/access)

### Religious Holidays

Students have the right to practice the religion of their choice. If you need to miss class to observe a religious holiday, please submit the dates of your absence to me in writing by the end of the second full week of classes. You will be permitted to make up work within a mutually agreed-upon time. <https://www.uvm.edu/registrar/religious-holidays>

### Academic Integrity

The policy addresses plagiarism, fabrication, collusion, and cheating.

<https://www.uvm.edu/policies/student/acadintegrity.pdf>

### Grade Appeals

If you would like to contest a grade, please follow the procedures outlined in this policy:

<https://www.uvm.edu/policies/student/gradeappeals.pdf>

### Grading

For information on grading and GPA calculation, go to <https://www.uvm.edu/registrar/grades>

### Code of Student Conduct

<http://www.uvm.edu/policies/student/studentcode.pdf>

### FERPA Rights Disclosure

The purpose of this policy is to communicate the rights of students regarding access to, and privacy of their student educational records as provided for in the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974.

<http://catalogue.uvm.edu/undergraduate/academicinfo/ferparightsdisclosure/>

**Promoting Health & Safety**

The University of Vermont's number one priority is to support a healthy and safe community:

**Center for Health and Wellbeing**

<https://www.uvm.edu/health>

**Counseling & Psychiatry Services (CAPS)**

Phone: (802) 656-3340

**C.A.R.E.**

If you are concerned about a UVM community member or are concerned about a specific event, we encourage you to contact the Dean of Students Office (802-656-3380). If you would like to remain anonymous, you can report your concerns online by visiting the Dean of Students website at <https://www.uvm.edu/studentaffairs>

**Final Exam Policy**

The University final exam policy outlines expectations during final exams and explains timing and process of examination period. <https://www.uvm.edu/registrar/final-exams>

**Statement on Alcohol and Cannabis in the Academic Environment**

As a faculty member, I want you to get the most you can out of this course. You play a crucial role in your education and in your readiness to learn and fully engage with the course material. It is important to note that alcohol and cannabis have no place in an academic environment. They can seriously impair your ability to learn and retain information not only in the moment you may be using, but up to 48 hours or more afterwards. In addition, alcohol and cannabis can:

Cause issues with attention, memory and concentration

Negatively impact the quality of how information is processed and ultimately stored

Affect sleep patterns, which interferes with long-term memory formation

It is my expectation that you will do everything you can to optimize your learning and to fully participate in this course.

**Course Schedule**

**September 8** – Bradley Cech

**September 22** – Aarzo Grover

**October 6** – Dennis Seth

**October 27** – Taylor Kocian

**November 10** – Bobby Tracy

**December 1** – Moniruzzaman Moniruzzaman

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