

CH 498: INTERNSHIP IN CHEMISTRY - SYLLABUS

Course Description: Provides faculty-directed practical experience in a working environment outside of Regis University. Requires a 5-10 page paper and a 20-minute presentation to department at conclusion of semester. Credit – 3 hrs.

Prerequisites: CH 210 and CH 230, sophomore standing or higher, Department Chair approval, approval of the Director of Experiential Education.

Course Outcomes: *By the end of the internship students should be able to...*

- apply concepts learned in Regis College Chemistry courses to the internship setting,
- articulate how the internship relates to the student's personal and educational goals and objectives,
- articulate how the internship experience relates to the student's personal values and ethics, and
- compose a clear, concise, and accurate research paper and presentation based on their work experience.

Requirements:

Supervisor Evaluation. The on-site internship supervisor will provide a written evaluation to the course instructor at the conclusion of the semester. The instructor will use the supervisor's evaluation, observations from any instructor site visit, and any additional comments or clarification supplied by the student to assign a grade for this portion of the course.

Internship Hours Completion. Students work an agreed upon number of hours at the internship site, usually ~120 hrs.

Instructor Meetings. Students will meet briefly with the instructor at least every other week (or if out of town correspond with the instructor via phone or e-mail) to discuss the intership.

Journal. A journal updated by the student **after each day's work** at the internship site. Each entry should indicate the date, number of hours worked, a short summary of the day's work activities and any interesting observations, including description of any new procedures, equipment, or persons to which/whom the student was introduced.

- **A first entry before the first day at the internship site** should be a page or two explaining the student's expectations concerning the work experience. Include what you expect you will be doing, with whom you expect to interact, and generally what you expect to gain from the experience.

- **At or just before the mid-semester break** students should write 2 or more pages on the workplace organization and diversity. List positions of people with whom are you interacting. For each note what their jobs generally entail and what training or formal education each person needed for their current position. Describe how decisions are made and how work is directed.

- **The final entry in the journal should be 2 or more written pages**, after the student re-reads the previous journal entries, paying particularly close attention to the first "expectations" entry. Discuss (1) how your final view compares to your initial expectations, (2) how your coursework in biology contributed to the experience, and (3) how it affected your personal beliefs, future goals, and view of this profession.

Research Paper. The paper must be completed as a **complete draft by the semester's withdrawal deadline** and as a **revised final paper by the last day of finals week**. The paper will explore an issue relevant to the work being conducted and will be written in support of a clearly stated thesis including academic sources (including primary research articles and academic review articles or books). The student and

instructor need to agree upon an initial research question (which will lead to a thesis after research) by the time of the mid-semester break. (See attached, detailed paper assignment).

The paper should include:

- An introduction that includes the paper's clearly stated *thesis*. This thesis should take a clear position and should answer the initially posed research question.
- An explanation of, description of, or elaboration upon the biology relevant to the thesis.
- Meaningful citation of appropriate academic works (NOT "popular" works).
- A clear organization that supports the thesis in a logical, coherent, and developmental way.
- A conclusion addressing the thesis.
- A literature cited/references section listing academic sources (typically primary research articles, academic books, and literature review articles) that were cited in the text in an approved format (any A.C.S. Journal)

Presentation. The presentation must be completed during the second half of the internship semester open to the department and Regis College and the student must advertise it within the Science Building Departments. The presentation should be approximately 20 min. in length. The instructor and student will negotiate the specific nature of the content to be covered. Minimally, it must include:

- description of the activities conducted during the internship,
- description and analysis of how the internship relates to the student's Biology course work,
- description and analysis of how the internship relates to the student's personal and educational goals and objectives referring to how the internship experience relates to the student's values and ethics.

The instructor will assign a grade for the course based on the six requirements listed above. The relative weight of the specific requirements will be decided by the instructor in consultation with the student at the beginning of the Internship period.

Disability Statement: If you have a documented disability requiring academic adjustments for this class, please contact Disability Services (303-458-4941, disability@regis.edu). Disability Services will review your documentation with you and help determine appropriate, reasonable accommodations. Following the meeting with Disability Services personnel, please make an appointment with your instructor to discuss your accommodation request in light of the course requirements. You may self-disclose and request an academic adjustment any time during the semester. However, ***you are strongly recommend to do so as soon as possible*** because accommodations are not provided retroactively and adequate lead-time is required.

Academic Conduct: Students will engage in appropriate academic conduct. In the unlikely event that inappropriate academic conduct occurs, then the consequences will be as follow:

- Plagiarism that the instructor thinks was unintentional and due to lack of full understanding of the nature of plagiarism will minimally result in a 0% score on the assignment AND the formal report of the infraction to the Regis College Dean's Office.
- Any second offense of inappropriate academic conduct in the class of any type, falsification of hours worked, vandalism of internship site facilities or equipment, or plagiarism that the instructor thinks was intentional will result in immediate failure of the course (grade = F) AND the formal report of the infraction to the Regis College Dean's Office.