



# CHEM\*7940 COURSE OUTLINE

UNIVERSITY  
of GUELPH

Revised Sept. 14, 2007

1. CHEM\*7940 must be completed within the first two terms of the M.Sc. Program.

## 2. Course Requirements

- a) a written research proposal
- b) an oral defense of the research proposal
- c) attendance, participation, and evaluation of all other course seminars

### Details of Above Requirements

- a) The written project report will consist of a detailed research proposal including a major review of the literature related to the student's research area.

The report should be typewritten, double-spaced and would normally have 20-25 pages of content (i.e. excluding the title, abstract, etc). The report should follow the format of a Master's thesis. Guidelines are available on the Graduate Program Services (GPS) website:

<http://www.uoguelph.ca/graduatestudies/forms/format.pdf>

**See Schedule of Dates for deadlines. Marks will be deducted for late or/and incomplete written project reports.**

To ensure useful feedback, the student is required to provide 4 printed and electronic copies of their Power Point slides at least 2 working days before the seminar to Krystyna Czernicki.

- b) The oral defense will be a formal seminar of approximately 30-40 minutes duration followed by a question period.
- c) The student will be expected to attend all course seminars, to participate in the question period, and to complete a detailed Student Evaluation Form for each seminar.

## 3. Evaluation

- a) An evaluation committee consisting of the CHEM 7940 instructor (course co-ordinator), the research advisor, and at least two other faculty members, usually members of the student's advisory committee, will mark the written proposal and submit a numerical grade **before** the oral presentation.
- b) The evaluation committee will grade the seminar based on the following criteria:
  - i. preparation and organization
  - ii. presentation, speech and grammar
  - iii. understanding of material
  - iv. ability to handle discussion

- c) Attendance and participation by the students at the seminars will be evaluated by the course instructor (co-ordinator).
- d) Students will be assigned a numerical grade at the end of the course in which the written and oral requirements of the course will have equal weight.

#### 4. Preparation of Research Proposal

Possible headings for your report are listed below:

Suggested weighting of material presented	Sections	Description
30%	Introduction	- outline the various parts or aspects of your report.
	Background	- it should include the background literature related to your proposed research. - it should provide enough depth of information to support the proposal and its context.
40%	Research Proposal	- what do you propose to do in your research project and how do you propose to do it? - details of any special instrumentation or apparatus should be included.
30%	Significance	- why would this be a significant research contribution? - outline possible extensions or applications if this research was successful.
	Bibliography	- the whole report should be properly referenced. - the format of the references should be appropriate to your sub-discipline or similar to theses in your area.

Variations on this suggested format may be appropriate or desirable. For examples of research proposals, the student should see his/her CHEM\*7940 Course Coordinator.