

Syllabi

Independent Research and Study Courses in the Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry

CHE 441-442 Special Topics in Chemistry 1 semester hours credit each
Prerequisite: 18 hours of chemistry and departmental consent
Course Description: Studies of topics of current interest in chemistry.

CHE 451-452 Independent Studies and Research 3 semester hours credit each
Prerequisite: 18 hours of chemistry and departmental consent
Course Description: Individual reading and research involving experimental or theoretical investigation.

CHE 491, 492, 493 Field Studies 1, 2, or 3 semester hours credit, respectively
Prerequisite: departmental consent

Course Description: These courses are taught in response to a specific need and request. They may involve non-traditional teaching techniques and will usually combine formal education with practical experience in a career field. These courses may be repeated as necessary for up to six hours of credit.

General Overview and Rationale:

While these courses provide a means for students to study topics not included in the normal chemistry curriculum or to study in more depth a topic in which they are particularly interested, the primary goal of these courses in the Department of Chemistry is to provide a means for undergraduates to be involved in faculty-student collaborative research outside of the Honors Reading and Research Program.

The Mission of Mississippi College includes the desire to produce graduates that are life-long learners. To accomplish this goal students need opportunities to understand and respond to the dynamic nature of human knowledge. They need experiences that go beyond providing a contemporary body of knowledge, which may be quickly outdated in today's fast moving society. Faculty-student collaborative research is one valuable way to provide such opportunities and experiences.

Doctoral degrees in chemistry are always research degrees, often involving only a few standard courses. Thus, to prepare adequately undergraduates for graduate school, undergraduate research experiences are necessary. Research teaches students to learn independently and helps equip them to respond to the challenges that they will face in their lives following graduation. In addition, experience in undergraduate research can not only help students obtain admission to graduate and professional school, but it helps make them more competitive for top scholarships and fellowships.

Required Practices:

While individual courses will vary in the number and type of written assignments required, all of these courses require a terminal written report.

Attendance:

Because these courses offer varied educational experiences and often involve individualized mentor-student relationships, when, where, and how often a student must meet with the professor will vary from course to course and from professor to professor. However, for any course involving research, the policy of the Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry is that a student will spend a minimum of three hours per week in the laboratory for each one semester hour credit for which he or she is registered.

Please refer to the *Mississippi College Undergraduate Bulletin* for a discussion of the university's attendance policy.

Grading:

The educational experiences offered by these courses are individualized; therefore, the requirements and expectations for grades will vary from course to course. However, the university's grading system will be followed in each case. Please refer to the *Mississippi College Undergraduate Bulletin* for a discussion of the university's grading system and how quality points are assigned

Academic integrity:

Mississippi College students are expected to be honest. Please refer to the *Mississippi College Undergraduate Bulletin* for a discussion of honesty. Also refer to the *Mississippi College Tomahawk* or to University Policy 2.19.