I. **Course Title**

Chemistry Seminar

II. **Course Prefix/Number**

CHEM 471

III. **Credit Hours**

1

IV. **Prerequisites**

Completion of sufficient degree requirements to be within three semesters of graduating with a chemistry major.

V. **Catalog Description**

Capstone course intended for senior chemistry majors consisting of seminars presented by guest speakers, staff, and students; and assessment exam for seniors; and job placement information.

VI. **Curricular Relationships**

This course is required for all BA and BS Chemistry degrees.

VII. **Student Learning Outcomes**

- Students will be able to discuss current topics of interest to chemists and biochemists at a level appropriate to professional chemists.
- Students will be able to list and describe many career opportunities open to professional chemists.
- Students will demonstrate appropriate organizational, written, and oral communication skills.
- Students will be able to present the results of their own scientific research or individual projects to their peers at a level appropriate to that of professional society meetings.
- Students will be able to efficiently conduct literature searches in chemistry and other scientific journals.

VIII. **Content Outline**

Varies from year to year

IX. **Course Procedures/Policies/Grading Scale**

Students are expected to be present at all class meetings, to participate in the department's annual Chemistry Magic Show, and to assist with the annual San Luis Valley Science Fair.
In the first semester of enrollment, students select an article from a list provided by the faculty and present a short seminar based on that article. Students also identify a topic for their formal second semester presentation, begin a literature search on the topic, and submit a detailed written progress report. In the second semester of enrollment, students present another short talk, based on one paper they will use for their formal presentation. The final seminar requires that students prepare a 1-2 page written summary of their topic (complete with references) and present the seminar to the faculty and students in the class.

Seniors in the class are required to take an assessment examination at the end of the spring semester.

Students are evaluated on the basis of attendance, participation in required events, progress report, written summary, and oral presentations. The outcome of the assessment examination will not be considered in the grading of the course.

X. Required/Recommended Readings

There is no text for this course. Students select their own readings based on topics they select for presentation.

XI. Issues Unique to this Course

None

XII. Additional Departmental Issues

None