

## CHM 480 Forensic Chemistry

Spring 2008

### **Course Information**

Lecture: TuTh 08:00 - 09:20 a.m., CFS 102.

### **Instructor**

Dr. Chi Chung Yu (Jorn Yu)  
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### **Textbook**

Forensic Chemistry, Suzanne Bell, ISBN: 0131478354, PRENTICE HALL.

### **Course Description**

This is a one semester course focused on surveying important aspects of chemistry to forensic inquiries. Focus will be on the validity of results. Techniques and methods for selecting proper techniques to answer various questions will be discussed. Writing Enhanced. Prerequisite: A minimum grade of C in CHM 239, 440 and 467; MTH 142, CS 143. Spring. Credit 3.

### **Learning Objective:**

The objective of this course is to provide practical chemistry for answering forensics problems. First part of the course will introduce the chemistry for crime scene investigation. Second part of the course will address typical instrumental techniques for physical evidence analysis. Students are expected to gain contemporary chemical techniques for solving crime related problems.

### **Testing in This Course**

There will be two midterm exam, and a final exam:

The first Exam date is Tuesday, Feb. 26.

The second Exam date is Tuesday, April 8.

The Final Exam will be announced. Check university web site for schedule.

The scheduled test dates are not negotiable, except for the final may be changed by the instructor.

## Grading in This Course

### Exam:

Exam 1	30%
Exam 2	30%
Final Exam	40%

TOTAL **100 %**

### Grade scale:

90 – 100	A
80 – 89	B
70 – 79	C
60 – 69	D
Below 60	F

## Attendance Policy

Attendance is mandatory. In accordance with SHSU policy, attendance will be recorded each class period.

## Tentative schedule of Lectures

Your reading of the text book is highly recommended.

Week	Topic	Suggest readings (Chapters)
Jan. 17 Jan. 22, 24 Jan. 29, 31 Feb. 5, 7 Feb. 12, 14 <b>Feb. 18</b>	Introduction to forensic chemistry. Crime scene chemistry (Screening tests) Latent fingerprint development Advanced latent fingerprint development <b>AAFS meeting week</b>	1-3 Lecture notes
Feb. 26	<b>Exam 1</b>	
Feb. 28, March 4 <b>March 11</b> March 18, 20 March 25, 27 April 1, 3	Biological fluids screening, bloodstain visualization <b>Spring Break</b> Serial number restoration Revisit analytical chemistry Drug screening and analysis	Lecture notes 4-5 6-8
April 8	<b>Exam 2</b>	
April 11 April 15, 17 April 22, 24 April 29, May 1 May 6, 8 May 12	Crime lab chemistry Toxicology Chemical analysis of physical evidence Paint, fiber Hair, glass, soil <b>Final exam</b>	9-14

## **Blackboard**

The course Home Page for CHM480 can be reached via: [blackboard.shsu.edu](http://blackboard.shsu.edu)

Login with your university username and password. Since announcements and handouts will be posted on the course home page, it is your responsibility to check the course home page regularly in order to keep up with the course.

## **Student Absences on Religious Holidays**

An institution of higher education shall excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence. A student who plans to miss a class or required activity to observe a religious holy day should inform the professor in writing prior to planned absence.

## **STUDENTS with Disabilities**

It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that no otherwise qualified disabled individual shall, solely by reason of his/her disability, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any academic, Student Life program or activity. Students with disabilities may request academic assistance when needed from a Committee for Continuing Academic Assistance for Disabled Students by visiting the director of the Counseling Center, located in the annex of the Lee Drain Building across the sidewalk from Farrington Building, or call (936) 294-1720 (For additional information see the University Catalog). For assistance other than academic, the student with disabilities should contact the department from which assistance is needed, such as University Police for parking, the Registrar's Office for registration, etc. If problems are not resolved on the departmental level, contact the Interim Coordinator, Americans with Disabilities Act, or call (936) 294-1015. Students with disabilities may benefit by using CCTV's and voice-activated reading machines available in the Counseling Center. Hours of operation are Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. For further information, contact the Counseling Center staff at (936) 294-1720. CCTV and a voice-activated reading machine are also available in the library.

SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If you have a disability that may affect adversely your work in this class, then I encourage you to register with the SHSU Counseling Center and to talk with me about how I can best help you.

All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. NOTE: no accommodation can be made until you register with the Counseling Center.

## **Academic Honesty**

The Faculty Handbook states that the University expects all students to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to

maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. Furthermore, the University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials.

### **How to succeed**

Keep up with suggested readings. Spend as much time as you can afford on weekly homework. While assigned homework will not be graded, it will have a dramatic effect on your learning and performance on exams.

Attend all lectures to learn what type of question would likely appear in the exam.

### **Useful Links:**

Student Services Activities Calendar: <http://www.shsu.edu/calendar/>

Schedule of Classes: <http://www.shsu.edu/schedule/>

Academic calendar: <http://www.shsu.edu/catalog/calendar.html>

Blackboard: <http://blackboard.shsu.edu/>

Student Syllabus Guidelines: <http://www.shsu.edu/syllabus/>