

MSE 529: Hard Materials Seminar, Spring 2023

Instructors:

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Schedule:

Thursdays 4:00 pm–4:50 pm, 100 MSEB

Course Websites:

- Class schedule, seminar recordings, discussion board and gradebook: MSE529 on Canvas

Objectives:

Students will be able to present their own scientific research to an audience of peers in an informative and accessible form. Furthermore, students will learn about contemporary materials science research projects from presenters that are already established in their professional careers.

Course Evaluation:

The seminar grade is based on attendance only. If you have more than 2 unexcused absences for the semester, you will receive an unsatisfactory grade. For those students that are scheduled to give a presentation, if you miss your presentation without notifying the instructors, you will also receive an unsatisfactory grade. Excused absences are for medical or professional reasons only, such as job interview, participation to conferences, or off-campus research activities. For more details about reporting absences see below.

Presentations:

We will have two student presentations during each weekly class meeting. There may be a few weeks when we have invited guest speakers. During the dates with student presentations, selected graduate students enrolled in the PhD program will present a 12–15 minute research seminar. The schedule of the presentations for this semester is available on the course Canvas site. If you have been selected to present on a given day and you have a schedule conflict, it is your responsibility to inform the instructor well in advance so that your presentation can be rescheduled. All presentations will be delivered in person.

Grade Reporting:

All attendance will be determined from taking attendance in 100 MSEB before the seminar begins via iClicker mobile app (see below join code), and thus it will be important that you attend in a timely manner. All attendance records will be stored on the Canvas website. Any errors in grade reporting appearing on Canvas must be reported within 2 weeks of the due date of the assessment item or by the last day of class, whichever is earlier.

iClicker Join Code: <https://join.iclicker.com/VHZD>

Expectations:

To succeed in this class you will need to:

- Attend class regularly and participate through thoughtful questions;
- Prepare and practice your presentation;
- Seek out help when you have trouble.

Online Forum (Canvas):

This class uses Canvas (Discussion) for all communication between the instructors and students. If you desire, then you can make a private post just to the instructors (rather than sending an email).

Absences:

Excused Absence Request Form: <https://forms.illinois.edu/sec/1841242658>

Excuses from assessments will only be given in the following circumstances:

- a. Illness
 - b. Personal crisis
(e.g., car accident, required court appearance, death of close relative)
 - c. Required attendance at a professional activity or official UIUC activity
(e.g., professional conference, job interview, off-campus research activities, etc.)
2. In all cases you must complete the online Excused Absence Request Form and upload a scan of the official written documentation explaining your absence.
 3. In cases (a) or (b) please provide some form of documentation via the online form within 2 weeks of the due date of the missed assessment, but no later than reading day (December 10). In case of extended or unusual illness, late submission of excuse documentation will be considered. See [Student Assistance Center](#).
 4. On case (c) an official letter from the designated university official must be submitted via the online form at least one week prior to the due date of the missed assessment.
 5. If you will not be able to present on your assigned date, you are required to notify the instructor as soon as possible so alternative arrangements can be made.
 6. Notwithstanding the above, at the discretion of the instructors, you may be required to make up any excused work.

Special accommodations:

To obtain disability-related academic adjustments and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact their lecturer and the Disability Resources and Educational Services (DRES, disability.illinois.edu) as soon as possible, and no later than September 5.

Academic Integrity, Harassment, and Discrimination:

You are bound by the [University Honor Code](#) in this course. Any violation of the Honor Code will result in disciplinary action. In addition, harassment or discrimination of any kind will not be tolerated. Please report any concerns immediately to your professor.

Changes to the syllabus:

Changes may occur as deemed necessary by the instructors; they will be announced.