

CHEM 6010A, Introduction to Graduate Research

University of Vermont, Fall Semester, 2023

General Information

Instructor: Prof. Yangguang Ou

E-mail: you@uvm.edu

Meeting Time: Tue/Thur, 11:40 am–12:55 pm

Office Hours: by appointment

Office: Innovation E341

Phone: 656-2435

Meeting room: Lafayette L-202

The instructor reserves the right to make changes, with notice.

Course Description

Educational goals: The primary goals of this course are to introduce you to the research currently being performed in the Department of Chemistry, and to start your research career at the University of Vermont. The mechanism for accomplishing these goals is to have you listen to research presentations by the chemistry faculty throughout the semester. By the end of the semester, you will select a faculty member to work with on your thesis project, and you will select a three-member graduate studies committee. This committee serves as an objective panel to provide constructive comments on your work and to be a sounding board for any scientific questions you may have. Your graduate studies committee usually becomes your thesis defense committee after you complete your thesis project.

You will also be introduced to the instrumentation in the Chemistry Department Instrumentation Facilities by listening to presentations by the Facility Managers. The purpose of these presentations is to help you understand how to use these instruments as you progress through your thesis work and to understand what resources are available to facilitate your research. Finally, you will be introduced to software resources that will be useful to you as chemistry graduate students.

Course structure: We will meet on selected Tuesdays and Thursdays each month – please refer to the posted schedule.

Assessment: Because the main focus of this course is selection of a research advisor, your grade will be primarily based on three components: (a) attendance in class, 50 points; (b) meetings with faculty, 25 points; (c) successful identification of a graduate studies committee, 25 points.

Textbook: There is no textbook for this class. We will use some online resources, and most class time will be devoted to talking about research or listening to research presentations.

Statement on Diversity and Inclusion: I strive to create a classroom environment that supports students from a diverse set of ethnic, socioeconomic, and educational backgrounds. I strongly believe that our best path forward to a stronger and more equitable society is to promote inclusiveness.

As a community, we should strive to uphold the ideals of Our Common Ground:

<http://www.uvm.edu/president/out-common-ground>