CHEMISTRY CHE 589 – Research Thesis Proposal

Southern Connecticut State University

Fall/Spring/Summer Semester 20xx

Scheduled meetings with research adviser to be determined.

Pre-requisite: CHE 588

Course Overview and Requirements

This is a 3 credit graduate course for the preparation of a graduate thesis proposal in consultation with the research adviser. The guidelines for the proposal are described in the Graduate Student Handbook. The thesis proposal must conform to all styles set forth by the Department of Chemistry and the SCSU Graduate Thesis Proposal guidelines. The main body of the document should adhere to ACS style preferences.

The student and faculty research adviser will schedule meetings as appropriate for the completion of the thesis proposal by the deadline. The student must submit the thesis proposal to the Thesis Committee three weeks prior to the end of the term. The Thesis Committee will return the proposal with the evaluations and comments within two weeks to allow the student a one-week period for any revisions that need to be completed prior to submission to the School of Graduate Studies for approval.

The thesis must be approved by the Departmental Thesis Committee prior to beginning research (CHE 590) and submission to the School of Graduate Studies for approval. The thesis proposal must be completed and submitted to the School of Graduate Studies by the end of the semester enrolled or a "Q" grade will be assigned. The "Q" grade requires a student to re-enroll and pay the appropriate fees for the course if the deadline is not met.

It is the responsibility of the student and research adviser to ensure these deadlines are met. No extensions or special considerations will be made regarding the deadlines imposed.

Course Description

Expected Student Learning Activity	**Weekly Hours for Course***	**Total Hours for Course (14 week semester)**	**Term Credits Earned**
Lecture time (Contact Hours)	2	28	
Reading and Study Time	6	84	
Assignments/Problems/Reports	6	84	
Presentations	1	14	
Total Hours	**15**	**210**	**3**

*** Please note that these times are only estimates based on the Department of Education's definition of a credit hour and adjustments for the specific course by the Chemistry Department and do not guarantee a specific grade in the course. Students may find that they require more or less time to succeed in the course.**

Learner Outcomes

Upon completion of this course a student will be able to:

1. Complete a search of the scientific literature using online and bound hardcopy resources for the proposed research area. The student will be required to complete a thorough search of the scientific area using online tools such as SciFinder®, STNEasy®, Google®, etc., consistent with the scope of the area of study and the scope of the proposed research project. The references accumulated and discussion of the relevance of the materials toward the area will serve as the assessment tool.

2. Apply the concepts taught in CHE 588 as they apply to the current research topic. The student will be required to analyze the reference materials accumulated and assess the importance of the materials in terms of the contribution each cited work makes to the field in general, as well as the narrower scope of the proposed research that is being generated from the study. This will be assessed through a short presentation and the written summary that serves as the background for the proposal. Suitable material should also be presented where it is directly relevant to the specific research reactions proposed.

Evaluation: The evaluation of the thesis proposal is completed by the members of the Departmental Thesis Committee. The evaluation involves a pass or conditional pass or fail grade to various components of the proposal as outlined in the faculty evaluation document included below. Each committee member will assign a letter grade after reviewing the final thesis proposal document and the final grade for the course will be the average of the letter grades assigned by the committee (25%) and the faculty research adviser (75%).

The research adviser may petition for a revision to the grade with the full-time faculty members if he/she feels an unwarranted grade has been awarded.

Late/Missed Work: There is no mechanism for late submission.

Accommodating Students With Disabilities: As a student with a disability, before you receive course accommodations, you will need to make an appointment with the Disability Resource Center located in EN C-105A to arrange for approved accommodations. No accommodation regarding the deadline will be permitted.

Academic Dishonesty: Unfortunately, the question of academic dishonesty occasionally becomes an issue between an instructor and a student. **Plagiarism** is a serious example of academic dishonesty especially when it pertains to thesis exercises and this will not be tolerated. The penalty for plagiarism will be a grade of zero and if the Departmental Thesis Committee deems the extent of plagiarism to be extensive, removal from the program will result.

Departmental Thesis Proposal Review Committee

Thesis Proposal Evaluation

The Department of Chemistry at SCSU has outlined several components for the acceptance of thesis proposals in the undergraduate and graduate programs. The following items were evaluated by a Departmental Thesis Committee member and graded as pass, conditional pass, or fail. A letter grade considering all of the areas for assessment is included at the end of the document.

1. The literature review was thorough and appropriate for the study to be conducted.

   Pass ☐ Conditional Pass ☐ Fail ☐

2. There is a clear statement of the proposed research including, where appropriate, experimental methodology, and the advances the research presents to the current body of knowledge.

   Pass ☐ Conditional Pass ☐ Fail ☐

3. The proposal adheres to current American Chemical Society standards including those pertaining to the suggested styles for written documentation.

   Pass ☐ Conditional Pass ☐ Fail ☐

4. Citations follow the current American Chemical Society standards.

   Pass ☐ Conditional Pass ☐ Fail ☐

5. Figures and schemes were presented in a suitable format using ChemDraw® software or proper permission was obtained and included to reproduce figures, etc.

   Pass ☐ Conditional Pass ☐ Fail ☐

6. The overall quality of the proposal reflects the standards set forth by the Department of Chemistry.

   Pass ☐ Conditional Pass ☐ Fail ☐

Additional Comments: (please attach a separate page if more space is required)

Reviewed by: _____ (Print Name) Date: _____

_____ _____

Faculty Signature Recommended Letter Grade