**Chemistry 397 Academic Year**  
**Departmental Course Syllabus and Grading Policy**

**Course Description:** This course is a zero credit research course. It is designed for students who 1) have already completed Chem 481 and Chem 482 but still want it denoted on their transcript that they were participating in research, or 2) want to participate in research but cannot dedicate sufficient time to warrant enrollment in 481 or 482.

**Learning Outcomes:**
- To design appropriate experiments after consulting scientific literature
- To evaluate experimental results and formulate a plan for moving the project forward
- To defend the results and interpretations of experiments in a written paper, poster presentation, or oral presentation

**Expectations:**
1) Students who work independently in a lab must complete the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry Research Safety Training once a year. During the academic year, training is conducted by the PI of the lab. In the summer, students will attend a day-long safety orientation. Each student will post their training record in their lab’s orange 3-ring binder.
2) Students must commit to a work schedule arranged with the faculty member.
3) Student must give a report to the faculty mentor during the term in the form of a written report of their work, an oral presentation, or a poster. A pdf file of the final project must be emailed to ChemResearch@cofc.edu by the last day of class.
4) Students are expected to participate in the proper care and maintenance of lab facilities and to abide by safety regulations of the department, including monthly lab safety assessments, maintenance of inventory, and adhering to all department safety policies, especially with regards to **wearing PPE at all times while in the lab. Faculty in the department will report students they observe who are not dressed in the proper PPE. Three observations will result in a failing grade and dismissal from lab.**
5) Lab notebooks are the property of the faculty mentor and must remain in the laboratory.
6) Students are expected to understand and adhere to the “work alone” policy set forth by the faculty mentor. This acknowledgement should be in the group’s orange binder.
7) Students are responsible for carrying out the lab’s monthly safety inspections in January, February, March and April for Spring term enrollment and the September, October, November inspections in the Fall term. If multiple students in a lab are enrolled in a given semester, the work may be divided among the enrolled students.

Grading in the course is “S” or “U” for satisfactory or unsatisfactory. To receive an S, students must commit to a work schedule arranged with the faculty member. Students will present their work either in a written report, oral presentation, or a poster by the end of the term. Unsatisfactory grade will be awarded when 1) the student routinely does not arrive to work in the lab as scheduled, 2) the student shows gross incompetence, negligence, or disregard for safety rules and regulations, or 3) the student fails to provide an end-of-semester written or oral product.
Student Name:

Title of Project:

Expected Final Project:

Expected Hours of Work:

Email:

Cell phone Number:

Emergency Contact Name and Number:

Student Signature:
I understand the expectations and responsibilities of taking an independent research course in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry

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