

CHEM 0250. Structural Biology

University of Pennsylvania
Spring 2023

Overview

CHEM 0250 is the first-year (freshmen) seminar associated with students in the Roy and Diana Vagelos Molecular Life Sciences (MLS) Program. The course is 0.5 cu each of the Fall and Spring terms. Students in the MLS program must complete both semesters. CHEM 0250 satisfies Sector VII (Natural Sciences and Mathematics) of the College of SAS Sector requirements, but students must complete both the Fall and Spring semesters.

The Spring semester will build upon topics covered in the Fall term, including knowledge of molecular structures, molecular properties, physical science, and quantitative methods. If you have not taken the Fall semester of the course, registering for CHEM 0250 is not recommended.

Objectives of the course

- Gain exposure to the frontiers of science via regular readings of scientific journals, including *Science* and *Nature*
- Gain familiarity with current areas of research in the basic and applied sciences
- Gain familiarity reading primary scientific literature and academic journals
- Acquire skills and knowledge for relevant to scientific research
- Learn some of the fundamentals of the molecular basis of life processes
- Identify areas of interest in the natural sciences
- Identify potential majors
- Identify potential research groups on or adjacent to the Penn campus. There are at least 800 to choose from.

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Assignments and Assessment:

- Weekly readings of issues of *Science*, *Nature* and other scientific journals
- Online and in-class discussions of readings
- In-class and asynchronous (online) participation
- Weekly quizzes on readings and scientific topics
- Additional quizzes and assignments