

Medicinal Chemistry In Jamaica: An International Perspective Syllabus, Chemistry 260, January 2010

Goals:

The course is divided into two broad categories each of which has its own intended learning outcomes and means of assessment.

I. The science of medicinal chemistry

- The student will demonstrate knowledge of pharmacodynamics and pharmacokinetics
- The student will demonstrate knowledge of the process of drug discovery, design and development
- The student will demonstrate knowledge of quantitative structure activity relationships
- The student will demonstrate knowledge of selected topics in medicinal chemistry including phytomedicinals

II. The culture of Jamaica

- The student will demonstrate: knowledge of Jamaican culture, worldviews, history, contemporary issues, social institutions and relation of people to the environment
- The student will demonstrate: familiarity with global interconnectedness
- The students will demonstrate: enhanced ability to compare and contrast aspects of their own culture to that of Jamaica
- The student will demonstrate: an ability to adapt and interact effectively with people of different social and cultural backgrounds.

Assignments/requirements:

1. Journal (25%) - you are expected to keep a daily written journal. The following topics are required; you must have a journal entry on each one of the following five topics:

Academic topics (all five required)

Conference lectures
Conference posters
Discussions with faculty

Discussions with students
Impressions of Lilly

Additionally, over the month, you are required to record your daily thoughts/observations on at least ten different topics below:

Jamaican societal/cultural topics (a minimum of 10 are required)

Family structure	Faith	Economics	Recreation
Education	Heroes	Transportation	Superstitions
Health	Care of children/elderly	Music	Politics
Money	Recreation	Clothing	Crime
Food	Housing	Traditions	Values
Support	Heritage	Gender roles	Others?
		Holidays	

I will be periodically collecting your journals and evaluating your daily entries on your ability to articulate your observations and interpretations of the topics the listed above.

2. Lab visit (10%) – either individually or in a group of no more than 3, arrange to visit a research laboratory at UWI. Write about your experience as part of one of your daily journal entries.

3. Inserts (20%) – working with a partner, prepare a 10-15 minute PowerPoint presentation using the information on the prescription “insert” you chose. There must be evidence that the work was shared equally between the partners. The minimum aspects to include in your presentation are:

- intended uses of the drug
- drug structure and chemical properties
- aspects of the drug’s pharmacodynamic properties
- aspects of the drug’s pharmacokinetic properties
- similarities and differences to related uses and chemical structures of other drugs

4. Phytomedicinals (20%) – we will have the opportunity to take three guided walks to learn more about the plants commonly used in folk medicine. Working in a group of 3-4, you are required to catalog a minimum of 12 medicinal plants encountered on our hikes by taking a photo and documenting the name, description, parts of the plants used, method of preparation and uses. Catalog entries should follow the format of the “Common Medicinal Plants” book and be submitted digitally, one entry per page. Information and comparisons utilizing geographic and cultural attributes will be highly valued.

5. Exam (15%)– one examination covering the material from the text will be administered

6. Citizenship (10%) – each day you have the right to learn, explore and have fun but you also have the responsibility to represent yourself, the College and the U.S. in an upstanding manner. I am expecting you to show the utmost respect for yourself, for members of the group, for me and for everyone who has and will take the time to provide even the most trivial experience for you. Respect takes the form of honoring your signed “off campus interim agreement form”, enthusiastic participation in activities, polite attention to speakers, engagement in discussion and an overall positive attitude.

Instructor’s philosophy:

I am participating in this program because I love to learn; especially in an environment that challenges one’s intellect as well as one’s cultural comfort. Please include me in your discussions and investigations of the science and society during our journey. I can be considered a resource but perhaps viewing me as a participant would give you a better insight into my approach to this endeavor. Your grade will be primarily based on my impression of your investment in the assignments/requirements outlined above. You can choose to “meet expectations” or choose to “exceed expectations”. Feel free to impress me in all aspects of our journey. I guarantee the return on your efforts will be tremendous.

Rubric:

Adequate – barely meets the minimum requirements, limited interpretation, limited investment and few comparisons

Meaningful – clear investment, good display of topical knowledge, good interpretation and expression of interconnectedness, good comparisons and contrasts, multiple aspects addressed, meets expectations

Compelling – similar to the “meaningful” criteria above but truly embraces the spirit of the assignment, the reader/audience is moved, exceeds expectations