

BIOLOGY/CHEMISTRY 152 – Vocation and the Health Professions
Course Syllabus
Spring 2009

INSTRUCTOR:

Dr. Mark Jensen
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OFFICE HOURS:

Mon. 8:45-9:45am
Tues. 1:45-2:45pm
Wed. 8:45-9:45am
(or whenever I'm around)

THE COURSE: This is a 0.25-credit course designed for freshman and sophomore students intending to pursue careers in the health professions. Questions that we will attempt to address include:

- What courses should I take?
- What are the admissions committees looking for?
- What is my calling?
- Is this really what I want to do with my life?
- What if I change my mind?
- What will my life be like if I follow this career path?
- What other options do I have?

MEETING TIME: Mondays, 7pm-9pm, Jones 212

COURSE WEB PAGE: www4.cord.edu/chemistry/jensen/chem152/ - This page is directly accessible from my homepage. It contains links to various materials related to the course including a course schedule, assigned and suggested reading materials, and information on guest lecturers.

GRADES: The course grade will be determined in the following way:

Attendance/Participation	50 %
Final Paper	25
Interviews	15
Initial Paper	<u>10</u>
TOTAL	100 %

The overall grading scale is as follows: A- : 90% B- : 80% C- : 70% D- : 60%

ATTENDANCE/PARTICIPATION: Since the majority of your learning in this course will occur during our class meeting time, one-half of your total course grade is based on your attendance and participation. Attendance at each class period is required, and each unexcused absence will result in a 10% deduction from your attendance/participation score. Participation will largely be based on your contribution to small-group and large-group discussion.

ASSIGNMENTS: All written assignments are due at the beginning of class on the due date given. Late assignments will be docked 10% per day.

Initial Paper (2-3 pages, Due Jan. 12): Write an essay that address the following questions:

- What do you want to be and why?
- What has led you to this path?
- Where do you see yourself in 20 years?

- What are your goals in life?

Interviews (at least two summaries, 2-3 pages each, Due Apr. 20): Each of you is required to interview at least two health-care professionals from a field or fields you are considering. You may interview anyone you'd like, but a list of suggested individuals can be provided to you if you wish. You should include the following questions, but you are encouraged to ask any questions you'd like:

- What drew you to this field?
- Do you feel you were "called" to this work?
- What part of your work gives you the most satisfaction?
- What part of your work do you find the most frustrating or discouraging?

You will then be asked to turn in a written summary of each interview you conduct.

Final Paper (5-6 pages, Due Apr. 27): Revisit the questions presented in your initial paper. Incorporate things you've taken from the course, such as your definition of vocation, and tell how you feel you are being called to a particular career.

GUEST LECTURES: We will have several guest lecturers with us throughout the course. In most cases you will be given a set of reflective/study questions that relate to the lecturer's presentation. Following the presentation we will break into small groups to discuss the questions, then reconvene with the entire class to share the results of those discussions with everyone. At the end of the class period you may be asked to turn in written responses to one or more of the reflection questions.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: Each student is expected to adhere to the policies outlined in the college's academic integrity handbook. Cheating of any kind will not be tolerated. Any student found to have violated academic integrity will receive no credit for the particular assignment in question. A second offense will lead to automatic removal from the course. For any violation of academic integrity a report outlining the nature of the violation, as well as the consequences levied, will be sent to the Academic Dean.

COURSE SCHEDULE: We will meet every Monday during the semester, except for the following: Feb 23 (Spring Break), Apr. 13 (Easter Break). Please check the course website for an up-to-date course schedule.