

Faculty Member Contact Information

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Description of the URCA Assistant Position

This posting includes one funded position. In addition, the faculty member may be willing to mentor additional, unfunded students.

How many unfunded students is this professor taking in addition to his/her one funded student? 2

(Students, if the faculty member will have both funded and unfunded students, he or she is free to select which student receives the funding. Funding cannot be split up between multiple students; only one student will receive it.)

Which of the following apply to this position?

- This position is **only** open to students who have declared a major in this discipline. **M**
- This project deals with social justice issues. 
- This project deals with sustainability (green) issues. 
- This project deals with human health and wellness issues. 

How many hours per week will your student(s) be required to work in this position? 8-10

(Minimum is 6 hours per week; typical is 9.)

Will it be possible for your student(s) to earn course credit? Yes No

If yes, in which course? CHEM 296, 396, or 496

If yes, for how many credit hours? 2

Location of research/creative activities: SL 2210

Brief description of the nature of the research/creative activity:

Dr. Dixon's research interests lie at the interface of chemistry and biology. He seeks insights into biological processes and macromolecular structure by employing probes at the molecular level. His modus operandi consists primarily of using the tools of chemistry to understand biochemical processes.

Brief description of student responsibilities:

- Every student must read and sign the Chemical Hygiene Plan found within the Lab and take the Blackboard Safety Training and Safety Quiz on (CONT_ DEPT_CHEM) every academic year prior to working in the lab.
- Those Students registered in Chem 396&496 must submit a research report at the end of their last semester of research.

General Goals For Research

1. Accomplish at least one true experiment per day, and two if possible.
2. Contribute new and novel idea's/directions to your research.
3. I should be able to completely understand your project and your progress by reading your lab book.
4. Start the habit of keeping up with the current chemical literature.
5. Aid in the identification of potential funding sources.
6. Attend all group/literature meetings.

Group Meetings are Mandatory

Group meetings are once a week and the topics will alternate between:

A. Journal Meeting

1. Each student will take a turn and provide the group with an article. You will hand the article to me on Wednesday and I will provide a photocopy of the article to be discussed on Thursday prior to group meeting.
2. Every student will read the journal article and be prepared to discuss the article. Discussion of the article will be initiated and monitored by the student who chose the article and myself, but everyone's participation in the discussion is mandatory.

B. Research Meeting

Be prepared to present and discuss your research results that have occurred over the prior 2 weeks.

Individual Meetings are Mandatory

Once a week an individual meeting will be assigned with you and your colleagues within your sub-group. This will allow a more individualized/detailed discussion of the day by day progress of your projects.

Grading Policy For Undergrad and Grad Research

1. You are required to put an average of 3-4 times the hours within the research lab per week than the number of credit hours you are registered. (If you are registered for 2 credit hours you must be in the lab an average of 6-8 hours a week)
2. All of these hours MUST be documented by either me or a graduate student.
3. You are required to submit a final research report after you have accomplished your research within my laboratory.
4. You must purchase a carbon-less laboratory notebook that will be left with me upon leaving the lab. (Available through Chem Club)

URCA Assistant positions are designed to provide students with *research or creative activities* experience. As such, there should be measurable, appropriate outcome goals. What exactly should your student(s) have learned by the end of this experience?

Your grade will be based on:

- Unsatisfactory accomplishments of goals of proposed research project and less than the average number of documented hours a week of research will result in a D grade.
- Unsatisfactory accomplishments of goals of proposed research project and the average number of documented hours a week of research will result in a C grade.
- Satisfactory accomplishments of goals of proposed research project and a minimum of the average number of documented hours a week of research will result in a B grade.
- Exemplary accomplishments of goals of proposed research project and a minimum of the average number of documented hours a week of research will result in a B+ or A- grade.
- Exemplary accomplishments of goals of proposed research project and greater than the average number of documented hours a week of research will result in an A grade.

Requirements of Students

If the position(s) require students to be available at certain times each week (as opposed to them being able to set their own hours), please indicate all required days and times:

NA, position is very flexible

If the location of the research/creative activities involves off campus work, must students provide their own transportation?

All on Campus

Must students have taken any prerequisite classes? Please list classes and preferred grades:

Chem 241b

Other requirements or notes to applicants:

N/A