

**Grove City College**  
**Spring Semester 2026**  
**CHEM 487: Biochemistry Seminar**

**Instructor**

Instructor Kevin Shaw  
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Office Hours M, 10:00-10:50; W, 10:00-10:50, 12:00-12:50, 14:00-14:50; R, 10:00-12:00  
F, 10:00-10:50, 12:00-12:50

**Meeting Hours**

Section A Wednesday 13:00, STEM 140B  
Section B Friday 13:00, STEM 140B

**Course Objectives(●), Assessments(○) and (Biochemistry Program Outcomes)**

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- Read the biochemical literature in depth
  - Assignments 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 & 8 (1, 2, 3, 4, 6, & 7)
- Write a review of a particular area of biochemistry
  - Assignments 1, 2, 3, 5, & 8 (1, 2, 3, 4, 6, & 7)
- Understand and practice the peer review process
  - Assignments 3 & 4 (5 & 6)
- Appreciate and practice the art of the biochemical seminar
  - Assignments 6 & 7 (1, 2, 3, 4, 6, & 7)

**Grading**

Assignment	Description	Points
1	Topic, justification and citation for a related review	5
2	Paper outline and literature cited	10
3	First draft	5
4	Referee comments	10
5	Second draft	5
6	Journal club paper presentation	15
7	Seminar	30
8	Paper	20

Grading scale is 10 points per letter grade, with +/- distinctions.

**Required Materials**

<http://biochemistry.prof/487/> The course website provides detailed instructions and formats for each assignment, database and journal links, current paper discussion and seminar schedules along with reading assignments.

## Policies

This course requires participation from all students. Students are expected to think critically while reviewing papers, discussing papers and listening to seminars. This thought is to be evidence by comments, suggestions and questions.

As much of this course is participatory, either presenting or discussing, attendance is required. One unexcused absence is permitted during the semester. Any unexcused absence beyond the first will bring a reduction in your course grade by one letter grade. See pages 55–56 of the *2025–2026 Grove City College Bulletin* for attendance expectations.

Late assignments (see schedule for due dates) will be reduced by twenty percent for each day late.

All work submitted in this course must be your own scholarly work prepared originally for this course. Plagiarism, presenting work as your own which is not, is unacceptable. See pages 56–59 of the *2025–2026 Grove City College Bulletin* for statements on “academic integrity.”

As this course is designated a performance course, written examinations (either during the semester or a comprehensive final exam) are inconsistent with the learning outcomes of this course. There are no written examinations. Your seminar presentation will stand in lieu of a written final examination.

Any required learning accommodations will be provided in this course. See page 39 of the *2025–2026 Grove City College Bulletin* for information on requesting services from the Disability Services Coordinator.

## Schedule

Class	Date	Topic	Assignment Due
1	14 & 16 January	Reading the Biochemical Literature	–
2	21 & 23 January	Publishing a Paper	–
3	28 & 30 January	Giving a Seminar	Topic, justification & review citation
4	4 & 6 February	Example Seminar	–
5	11 & 13 February	Example Journal Club	–
6	18 & 20 February	Seminar and/or Journal Club	Paper outline & literature cited
7	25 & 27 February	Seminar and/or Journal Club	–
–	4 & 6 March	<i>No Class—Spring Recess</i>	–
8	11 & 13 March	Seminar and/or Journal Club	First Draft
9	18 & 20 March	Seminar and/or Journal Club	Referee Comments
10	25 & 27 March	Seminar and/or Journal Club	–
11	1 April	Seminar and/or Journal Club	–
–	3 April	<i>No Class—Easter Recess</i>	–
12	8 & 10 April	Seminar and/or Journal Club	Second Draft
13	15 & 17 April	Seminar and/or Journal Club	–
14	22 & 24 April	Seminar and/or Journal Club	Paper
15	29 April	Seminar and/or Journal Club	–