

Section A: MWF 8:30-9:20, CHL 101

Section B: MWF 9:30-10:20, CHL 101

Instructor: Christopher M. Chinn.

Office: Lewis Annex 1, Room 202.

Office Hours: MW 11-12 or by appointment.

Contact: If you would like to make an appointment or would like extra help, feel free to get in touch with me by any of the following methods. I will also try to post all course materials on my web site, listed below. If you are missing any documents handed out in class, please consult the web site.

- E-mail: cchinn@u.washington.edu.
- Office phone: (206) 616-6104.
- Department phone, with 24 hour voice mail: (206) 543-2266.
- My mail box: Denny 218
- Web site: <http://students.washington.edu/cchinn>.

Course Objective: The purpose of this class is twofold. (1) To improve the student's vocabulary. (2) To enable students to appreciate the linguistic origins of bioscientific terminology. This is NOT a class in scientific nomenclature *per se*. The class aims to provide the student with a sense for the way in which scientific words come into existence.

Course Plan: I have structured the class on the premise that the best way to improve vocabulary is for the student to engage in a regimen of consistent daily study. In order to foster this kind of study, I will give daily vocabulary quizzes, as well as hourly exams once a week. The balance of class time will be devoted to lectures on various topics, class discussion, and group work. Review days will be devoted to memorization drills and class discussion.

Text: There is only one book required for this class:

Donald Ayers. *Bioscientific Terminology*. Phoenix: University of Arizona Press, 1972.

This textbook (hereafter referred to as *BT*) contains the basic material which we will be studying in this class. *BT* may be obtained at the University Bookstore or at the numerous second-hand book stores in the vicinity of the University.

Students should also have consistent access to a substantial scientific or medical dictionary, preferably one which contains etymological information. Some examples may be found in the Reference Works list at the end of this syllabus.

Requirements: Classics 205 is graded C/NC (no exceptions according to departmental policy). Out of 400 possible points, 225 are needed for a passing grade. The student's performance will be evaluated on the basis of the following criteria:

Quizzes (40 points): There will be one quiz per class session (2 points each), except on exam days (see schedule for details). Quizzes will test the student's progress in the area of vocabulary building and will cover the material scheduled for that day.

Exams (160 points): Nearly each Friday there will be an hourly exam (20 points each), which will test the student's comprehension of ALL material in *BT* covered up to that point. Exams will contain vocabulary, word analysis, and word definition sections.

Final (200 points): The final examination is comprehensive and will test the student's ability to analyze words etymologically, to define unknown words, and to recognize important grammatical and linguistic concepts and phenomena. Examination dates are as follows:

Section A: Monday, December 11 from 8:30-10:20, CHL 101.

Section B: Tuesday, December 12, from 8:30-10:20, CHL 101.

No late work will be accepted, and all exams and quizzes must be taken on the date scheduled. The only acceptable excuses for missing exams are outlined in the U.W. Time Schedule. Please let me know ahead of time if you are going to miss class and have a proper excuse.

Course Schedule: Chapter numbers correspond to those found in *BT*. Study each chapter BEFORE the day on which it is scheduled. There will be a vocabulary quiz each day, with the exception of exam days (which usually fall on Fridays). The last day of class will be devoted to review.

M Sept 25: Introduction.
W Sept 27: Chapters 1-2.
F Sept 29: Chapters 3-4.

M Oct 2: Chapters 5-6.
W Oct 4: Chapters 7-8.
F Oct 6: **Exam 1.**

M Oct 9: Chapters 9-10
W Oct 11: Chapters 11-12.
F Oct 13: **Exam 2.**

M Oct 16: Chapters 13-14.
W Oct 18: Chapters 15-16.
F Oct 20: **Exam 3.**

M Oct 23: Chapters 17-18.
W Oct 25: Chapters 19-20.
F Oct 27: **Exam 4.**

M Oct 30: Chapters 21-22.
W Nov 1: Chapters 23-24.
F Nov 3: **Exam 5.**

M Nov 6: Chapters 25-26.
W Nov 8: **Exam 6.**
F Nov 10 (Holiday, Veterans Day).

M Nov 13: Chapters 27-28.
W Nov 15: Chapters 29-30.
F Nov 17: **Exam 7.**

M Nov 20: Chapters 31-32.
W Nov 22: Chapters 33-34.
F Nov 24 (Holiday, Thanksgiving).

M Nov 27: Chapters 35-36.
W Nov 29: Chapters 37-38.
F Dec 1: **Exam 8.**

M Dec 4: Chapters 39-40.
W Dec 6: Review.

Final examination, section A: Monday, December 11 from 8:30-10:20, CHL 101.

Final examination, section B: Tuesday, December 12, from 8:30-10:20, CHL 101.

Reference Works: The following list contains several good guides to scientific vocabulary which can supplement your studies in the course. Especially useful are the dictionaries listed, namely *Dorland's Medical Dictionary* and *Taber's Medical Dictionary*.

- Blinderman, Charles. *Bioblexicon: A Guide to the Language of Biology*. Springfield IL: C.C. Thomas, 1990.
- Borror, Donald J. *Dictionary of Word Roots and Combining Forms: Compiled from Greek, Latin, and other Languages, with Special Reference to Biological Terms and Scientific Names*. Mountain View, CA: Mayfield, 1988.
- Brown, Roland W. *Composition of Scientific Words: A Manual of Methods and a Lexicon of Materials for the Practice of Logotechnics*. Washington, DC: Smithsonian Institution Press, 1978.
- Dorland, W.A. Newman. *Dorland's Illustrated Medical Dictionary*. Multiple editions. Philadelphia: W.B. Saunders, 1900-present.
- Hackh, Ingo W. D. *Hackh's Chemical Dictionary, American and British Usage*. New York: McGraw-Hill, 1969.
- Jaeger, Edmund D. *A Source-Book of Biological Names and Terms*. Springfield, IL: C.C. Thomas, 1955.
- Miller, George A. *The Science of Words*. New York: Scientific American Library, 1996.
- Nybakken, Oscar E. *Greek and Latin in Scientific Terminology*. Ames, IA: Iowa State College Press, 1959.
- Schmidt, Jacob E. *Analyzer of Medical-Biological Words: A Clarifying Discussion of Medical Terminology*. Springfield, IL: C.C. Thomas, 1973.
- Taber, Clarence W. *Taber's Cyclopedic Medical Dictionary*. Multiple editions. Philadelphia: F.A. Davis, 1940-present.
- *The Merck Manual of Diagnosis and Therapy*. Rahway, NJ: Merck, 1950-present.

One Final Note: Classics 205 is the *beginning* of the study of scientific nomenclature. The course provides the building blocks of scientific words, but cannot account for recent usage in scientific discourse. Detailed study of the particular branches of science must accompany the studies in this course in order for the student to attain a full comprehension of scientific terminology.