

Arson & Explosives Laboratory

FSC 442L

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Fall 2009

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Office Location: AKH 113

Office Hours: TR 10-12

Introduction: This lab is designed to complement the Arson and Explosives lecture, FSC 442. **Safety is a primary concern in any laboratory experiment, but is particularly important in this laboratory due to the fact that we will be dealing with flammable and explosive materials. Safety goggles and lab coats are required.** Experiments outside of the laboratory or without proper supervision are *strongly discouraged*.

Each student should activate their USM email address or fill out the email waiver/forwarding form in SOAR for proper course communication through SOAR.

The laboratory proceedings will be written down by each student in the form of a laboratory report. Each report should include Introduction, Materials & Methods, and Conclusions/Discussion sections. Each report is due the laboratory meeting following the laboratory performed in the laboratory report. There are ten labs conducted throughout the semester graded as 15 points for the laboratory report and/or quiz and 5 points for participation/attendance totaling 20 points per laboratory. There will be no drop grade.

One analytical and one non-analytical class project will be completed for 50 points each during the semester. Two exams will be given throughout the semester, pulling information from the past laboratory experiments. Each exam is worth 100 points.

The total final amount of possible points is 500.

Grading Scale: A = 90-100%, B = 80-89%, C = 70-79%, D = 60-69%, F = Below 59%.

Laboratory attendance is mandatory. **NO MAKE-UP LABS WILL BE GIVEN UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES.** If the student knows that he/she will miss a laboratory, it is their responsibility to make the necessary arrangements with the instructor to obtain the information presented in the laboratory. All students must have the material necessary for the lab as described the previous laboratory meeting. If the student does not have the necessary materials for that lab, he or she cannot attend the lab and can either use it as the drop grade or receive a "0" for that lab.

Because of laboratory safety, tardiness will not be tolerated. If a student is tardy, and comes in to the laboratory after the instructional period, that student will not be allowed to participate in the laboratory exercise. The student may use this as their drop grade or receive a "0" for the lab.

The instructor retains the right to alter or change the schedule as needed.

Schedule

Aug. 28 Exercise 1: Introduction, Safety, Equipment
Sept. 4 Exercise 2: What is in a Flame?
Sept. 11 Exercise 3: Combustion & Flammability
Sept. 18 Exercise 4: Incendiary Device Introduction & Depth of Char
Sept. 25 Exercise 5: Extinguisher Presentation, Non-analytical Project Assigned
Oct. 2 Exercise 5b: Non-analytical Project Working Session
Oct. 9 NO CLASS: Fall Break
Oct. 16 Exercise 6: MIDTERM & Non-analytical Project Due
Oct. 23 Exercise 7: Headspace Analysis
Oct. 30 Exercise 8: Charcoal Headspace
Nov. 6 Exercise 9: Analysis of Unknowns
Nov. 13 Exercise 10: Results from Analysis of Unknown
Nov. 20 Exercise 11: Analytical Project Due, Final Exam Review, Q&A Session
Nov. 27 NO CLASS = THANKSGIVING BREAK
Dec. 4 FINAL EXAM

** SEPTEMBER 1 is the last day to drop the course and receive a full refund.

** SEPTEMBER 30 is the last day to drop the course without academic penalty.

The University's academic honesty policy will be strictly enforced. You are expected to understand the policy which is available in the University Bulletin at the following address: <http://www.usm.edu/registrar/catalogs2007/undergraduate/pdfs/Student%20Life.pdf>. Plagiarism and/or cheating will not be tolerated. There will be no excuse for lack of familiarity of the Student Code of Conduct in the Student Handbook.

If a student has a disability that qualifies under the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and requires accommodations, he/she should contact the Office of Disability Accommodations (ODA) for information on appropriate policies and procedures. Disabilities covered by ADA may include learning, psychiatric, and physical disabilities, or chronic health disorders. Students can contact ODA if they are not certain whether a medical condition/disability qualifies.

Address (Hattiesburg Campus):
The University of Southern Mississippi
Office of Disability Accommodations
118 College Drive, # 8586
Hattiesburg, MS

Telephone: 601-266-5024
TTY: 601-266-6837
Fax: 601-266-6035