

# **RYAN'S RULES**

for Advising Senior Thesis Research

1. I am an Analytical Environmental Chemist, therefore I am primarily suited to advise and direct research in the areas of Analytical or Environmental Chemistry.
2. If I agree to direct a student's Senior Thesis work, then I will outline a project that fits within my general area of interest. I am generally not open to exploring new topics proposed by undergraduates.
3. Students conducting Senior Thesis Research must register for 84.407/714 and 84.408/714 and are expected to spend, at a minimum, the amount of time commensurate with 6 credits of coursework. Additional time spent will almost always result in greater rewards.
4. A weekly research meeting will be scheduled at a mutually convenient time to briefly discuss research direction, specific plans, problems, needs, etc.
5. Open and frequent communication is encouraged both in person and by email.
6. At the end of the first semester of research, students must present a 10 minute presentation on their progress using PowerPoint slides. Typically 5 to 8 slides are sufficient. At the end of the second semester of research the presentation is a final summary of all the work completed (a.k.a. a defense). A time for questions will follow each presentation. The presentations are typically scheduled as the last seminar of the semester in the Analytical/Environmental Seminar Series. I require that students provide me with their slides at least one week in advance of each presentation and that they practice the presentation in front of me before making their public debut.
7. A written Progress Report and final report or Thesis are required and must be submitted by the last day of classes for the appropriate semester. Proper format, acceptable English grammar and good presentation are required. In other words it should look good and read well. (see also RYANS RULES for Writing & Thesis)

David K. Ryan, Ph.D.  
Professor of Chemistry

I have read and understand these rules and intend to abide by them with respect to my Senior Thesis Research experience.

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Student Signature

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Print Name

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Date