Objective: This one credit course is meant to give students practice organizing a scientific presentation and speaking in front of an audience. In addition, the course aims to promote interdisciplinary interaction and learning in the field of atmospheric science. Students will research topics and organize presentations for faculty and other students. The topics may be any aspect of air quality and atmospheric sciences and must be approved by the instructor in advance.

Expectations: Attendance at each seminar is mandatory for all students enrolled. Seminars may be given by outside speakers and attendance to those sessions is also mandatory. All Ph.D. students must sign up for this course three times prior to proposal defense. All M.S. students are required to enroll for two semesters. It is expected that enrolled students will actively participate by asking questions of the speaker. The effort by students to meet these expectations will be considered in the determination of your final grade.

You should strive for professionalism in all aspects of this class. Whereas most students choose to use PowerPoint to present their seminar, overheads, 35-mm slides or whiteboard are also acceptable media for visual aids. It is your responsibility to arrange for any equipment you require. Visual aids should look professional and be readable in the entire room; use spell check and proofread for typographical errors.

Each student will give a 40-minute presentation. Your seminar should focus on your research. As an alternative we would accept a literature review one topic consisting of (3-4, or more) related papers in a given area. You should strive to organize your seminar into a cohesive presentation, and be selective about what you present. Explain concepts simply and clearly, and define all terms and acronyms. Be prepared to answer questions after your seminar. The seminar will be timed.

Deadlines: Students will submit a topic for your seminar 2 weeks prior to your seminar and must be approved by instructor.
Grading:
This is a one-credit course aimed at graduate students doing research in air pollution and
related fields. Advanced undergraduates may also sign up for the class.

Your final grade will be determined by several factors: the quality and content of your
seminars, your attendance and participation in the class as a whole.

Attendance and Participation 30%
Professionalism 20%
Seminar Presentation 50%

Mandatory Reading:
UNC provides online materials covering various important topics for presentations. Please
review material under “General Presentation Advice” and “Presenting with Powerpoint” found
online at http://gradschool.unc.edu/academics/resources/postertips.html

Bennett, B. 2001. The three P’s of scientific talks: Preparation, practice, and presentation.
Society for Economic Botany Newsletter. 15: 6-9. can be found on-line at: