



## FALL 2023 SYLLABUS CHE 550/MASC 598

Mork Family Department Seminars

Tuesdays

4:00 p.m. – 5:20 p.m.

This Fall, the MFD department has scheduled eight seminars. Every Tuesday, students are required to be available during the designated class time. Although the seminar schedule is established, students should anticipate the possibility of unscheduled additional seminars. All seminars will be conducted in-person only.

1. Attendance: Mandatory attendance for a minimum of **seven seminars** is required for this semester. A department staff member will record student attendance at the start of each seminar. It is crucial to ensure that you check-in/out as failing to do so may disqualify you from receiving attendance credit for the seminar. If any unforeseen circumstance leads to seminar absence, reach out to Prof. Paulo Branicio (branicio@usc.edu) for MASC 598 or Prof. Malancha Gupta (malanchg@usc.edu) for CHE 550. You can discuss the situation and explore the possibility of attending a make-up seminar.
2. Seminar Report: A comprehensive report based on your preferred or most relevant seminar is due at the end of the semester. The report should adhere to the following guidelines:
  - Length: Two pages
  - Format: Single-column, single-spaced
  - Font: Times New Roman, size 12
  - Margins: 1-inch on all sides
  - Contents: Your name, registered class (CHE 550A, CHE 550B, or MASC 598), Seminar Title, Speaker's name, Abstract (your interpretation, do not copy the speaker's abstract), Introduction, Methodology, Key results, and Conclusions (including your personal assessment).

Kindly email your completed report by **Dec 1<sup>st</sup>** to Prof. Paulo Branicio (branicio@usc.edu) for MASC 598 or Prof. Malancha Gupta (malanchg@usc.edu) for CHE 550.

## Academic Integrity

The University of Southern California is foremost a learning community committed to fostering successful scholars and researchers dedicated to the pursuit of knowledge and the transmission of ideas. Academic misconduct is in contrast to the university's mission to educate students through a broad array of first-rank academic, professional, and extracurricular programs and includes any act of dishonesty in the submission of academic work (either in draft or final form).

This course will follow the expectations for academic integrity as stated in the [USC Student Handbook](#). All students are expected to submit assignments that are original work and prepared specifically for the course/section in this academic term. You may not submit work written by others or "recycle" work prepared for other courses without obtaining written permission from the instructor(s). Students suspected of engaging in academic misconduct will be reported to the Office of Academic Integrity.

Other violations of academic misconduct include, but are not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, fabrication (e.g., falsifying data), knowingly assisting others in acts of academic dishonesty, and any act that gains or is intended to gain an unfair academic advantage.

The impact of academic dishonesty is far-reaching and is considered a serious offense against the university and could result in outcomes such as failure on the assignment, failure in the course, suspension, or even expulsion from the university.

For more information about academic integrity see the [student handbook](#) or the [Office of Academic Integrity's website](#), and university policies on [Research and Scholarship Misconduct](#).

## Course Content Distribution and Synchronous Session Recordings Policies

USC has policies that prohibit recording and distribution of any synchronous and asynchronous course content outside of the learning environment.

Recording a university class without the express permission of the instructor and announcement to the class, or unless conducted pursuant to an Office of Student Accessibility Services (OSAS) accommodation. Recording can inhibit free discussion in the future, and thus infringe on the academic freedom of other students as well as the instructor. ([Living our Unifying Values: The USC Student Handbook](#), page 13).

Distribution or use of notes, recordings, exams, or other intellectual property, based on university classes or lectures without the express permission of the instructor for purposes other than individual or group study. This includes but is not limited to providing materials for distribution by services publishing course materials. This restriction on unauthorized use also applies to all information, which had been distributed to students or in any way had been displayed for use in relationship to the class, whether obtained in class, via email, on the internet, or via any other media. ([Living our Unifying Values: The USC Student Handbook](#), page 13).

## Policy on the use of AI Generators

Since analyzing, writing and critical thinking are part of the learning outcomes of this course, the report should be prepared by the student working individually. Students may not have another person or entity complete any substantive portion of the report. Developing strong competencies in these areas will prepare you for a competitive workplace. Therefore, using AI-generated tools is prohibited in this course, will be identified as plagiarism, and will be reported to the Office of Academic Integrity.

However, the use of AI Generators such as ChatGPT is permissible under specific circumstances. Students are allowed to use these tools for proofreading and restructuring their text to enhance clarity. Such use can help to identify and

correct grammatical errors, improve sentence structure, and enhance the overall readability of the text. The goal here is to facilitate better expression of your original thoughts and ideas, not to generate substantive content.

Therefore, while we discourage AI-generated content, we encourage and welcome the use of AI tools for proofreading and text restructuring to ensure the clarity and coherence of your report. This approach should serve to enhance, not replace, your individual creativity and critical thinking in the preparation of your report.

## **Statement on Academic Conduct and Support Systems**

### **Academic Integrity:**

The University of Southern California is a learning community committed to developing successful scholars and researchers dedicated to the pursuit of knowledge and the dissemination of ideas. Academic misconduct, which includes any act of dishonesty in the production or submission of academic work, compromises the integrity of the person who commits the act and can impugn the perceived integrity of the entire university community. It stands in opposition to the university's mission to research, educate, and contribute productively to our community and the world.

All students are expected to submit assignments that represent their own original work, and that have been prepared specifically for the course or section for which they have been submitted. You may not submit work written by others or "recycle" work prepared for other courses without obtaining written permission from the instructor(s).

Other violations of academic integrity include, but are not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, fabrication (e.g., falsifying data), collusion, knowingly assisting others in acts of academic dishonesty, and any act that gains or is intended to gain an unfair academic advantage.

The impact of academic dishonesty is far-reaching and is considered a serious offense against the university. All incidences of academic misconduct will be reported to the Office of Academic Integrity and could result in outcomes such as failure on the assignment, failure in the course, suspension, or even expulsion from the university.

For more information about academic integrity see [the student handbook](#) or the [Office of Academic Integrity's website](#), and university policies on [Research and Scholarship Misconduct](#).

Please ask your instructor if you are unsure what constitutes unauthorized assistance on an exam or assignment, or what information requires citation and/or attribution.

### **Students and Disability Accommodations:**

USC welcomes students with disabilities into all of the University's educational programs. [The Office of Student Accessibility Services](#) (OSAS) is responsible for the determination of appropriate accommodations for students who encounter disability-related barriers. Once a student has completed the OSAS process (registration, initial appointment, and submitted documentation) and accommodations are determined to be reasonable and appropriate, a Letter of Accommodation (LOA) will be available to generate for each course. The LOA must be given to each course instructor by the student and followed up with a discussion. This should be done as early in the semester as possible as accommodations are not retroactive. More information can be found at [osas.usc.edu](https://osas.usc.edu). You may contact OSAS at (213) 740-0776 or via email at [osasfrontdesk@usc.edu](mailto:osasfrontdesk@usc.edu).

**Support Systems:**

[Counseling and Mental Health](#) - (213) 740-9355 – 24/7 on call

Free and confidential mental health treatment for students, including short-term psychotherapy, group counseling, stress fitness workshops, and crisis intervention.

[988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline](#) - 988 for both calls and text messages – 24/7 on call

The 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline (formerly known as the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline) provides free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, across the United States. The Lifeline is comprised of a national network of over 200 local crisis centers, combining custom local care and resources with national standards and best practices. The new, shorter phone number makes it easier for people to remember and access mental health crisis services (though the previous 1 (800) 273-8255 number will continue to function indefinitely) and represents a continued commitment to those in crisis.

[Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention Services \(RSVP\)](#) - (213) 740-9355(WELL) – 24/7 on call

Free and confidential therapy services, workshops, and training for situations related to gender- and power-based harm (including sexual assault, intimate partner violence, and stalking).

[Office for Equity, Equal Opportunity, and Title IX \(EEO-TIX\)](#) - (213) 740-5086

Information about how to get help or help someone affected by harassment or discrimination, rights of protected classes, reporting options, and additional resources for students, faculty, staff, visitors, and applicants.

[Reporting Incidents of Bias or Harassment](#) - (213) 740-5086 or (213) 821-8298

Avenue to report incidents of bias, hate crimes, and microaggressions to the Office for Equity, Equal Opportunity, and Title for appropriate investigation, supportive measures, and response.

[The Office of Student Accessibility Services \(OSAS\)](#) - (213) 740-0776

OSAS ensures equal access for students with disabilities through providing academic accommodations and auxiliary aids in accordance with federal laws and university policy.

[USC Campus Support and Intervention](#) - (213) 740-0411

Assists students and families in resolving complex personal, financial, and academic issues adversely affecting their success as a student.

[Diversity, Equity and Inclusion](#) - (213) 740-2101

Information on events, programs and training, the Provost's Diversity and Inclusion Council, Diversity Liaisons for each academic school, chronology, participation, and various resources for students.

[USC Emergency](#) - UPC: (213) 740-4321, HSC: (323) 442-1000 – 24/7 on call

Emergency assistance and avenue to report a crime. Latest updates regarding safety, including ways in which instruction will be continued if an officially declared emergency makes travel to campus infeasible.

[USC Department of Public Safety](#) - UPC: (213) 740-6000, HSC: (323) 442-1200 – 24/7 on call

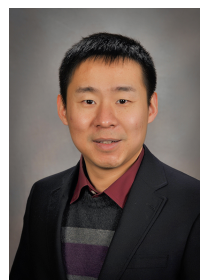
Non-emergency assistance or information.

[Office of the Ombuds](#) - (213) 821-9556 (UPC) / (323-442-0382 (HSC)

A safe and confidential place to share your USC-related issues with a University Ombuds who will work with you to explore options or paths to manage your concern.

[Occupational Therapy Faculty Practice](#) - (323) 442-2850 or [otfp@med.usc.edu](mailto:otfp@med.usc.edu)

Confidential Lifestyle Redesign services for USC students to support health promoting habits and routines that enhance quality of life and academic performance.

**2023 FALL SEMINARS****Tuesdays, 4:00pm -  
5:20pm ZHS 352 (on campus)****August 29, 2023****Donald  
Paul**University of  
Southern California  
Host: Prof. Iraj  
Ershaghi**September 5, 2023****Paulo  
Branicio**University of  
Southern California  
Host: MFD**September 12, 2023****Birendra  
Jha**University of  
Southern California  
Host: MFD**September 19, 2023****Alissa  
Park**University of  
California, Los  
Angeles  
Host: Prof. Jay Lee**September 26, 2023****Brett  
Savoie**Purdue  
University  
Host: Prof. Brent  
Melot**October 10, 2023****Junqiao  
Wu**University of  
California,  
Berkeley  
Host: Prof. Jay  
Ravichandran**October 24, 2023****Il-Doo  
Kim**Korea Advanced  
Institute of  
Science and  
Technology  
Host: Prof. Jay Lee**November 14, 2023****Kelvin  
Xie**Texas A&M  
University  
Host: Prof.  
Andrea Hodge**The Mork Family Department**  
of Chemical Engineering and Materials ScienceUniversity of Southern California  
925 Bloom Walk, HED-216  
Los Angeles, CA 90089-1211

Location and Dates are Subject to Change

More information at  
<http://chems.usc.edu>