



JAMES MADISON
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Chemistry and Biochemistry Department Seminar

Friday, April 9, 2021

3:30pm on Zoom

(See ChemBiochem Canvas page for link)

Course-level social belonging: Effects on student performance and persistence in General Chemistry

Dr. Gina Frey

Department of Chemistry

University of Utah

Salt Lake City, UT

Studies are showing that social belonging affect student learning and retention. In general chemistry, we are studying course-level social belonging and a little studied factor “uncertainty in social belonging”, quantitatively. We are looking at the effects of student social belonging (and uncertainty) on course performance and persistence in the course series, if these effects differ depending on identity and academic preparation, and if these effects differ in different institution types (research-intensive private institution and research-intensive public-state institution). Our findings suggest that course-level social belonging in general chemistry can have practical effects on student success and persistence of some underrepresented groups in STEM. We will discuss possible strategies for creating an inclusive environment to support all students.