

Course Syllabus

ANS 6313 Current Concepts in Reproductive Biology

Spring 2026

Frequency of Offering

Odd years, fall semester.

Instructor

P.J. Hansen, Dept. of Animal Sciences

Room 122 Bldg 499 (L.E. "Red" Larson Dairy Science Building)

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<http://www.animal.ufl.edu/hansen>
Links to an external site.

Office Hours

To be arranged through individual scheduling

Goals

This course uses in-depth discussion of recent review articles and original research publications on controversial or cutting-edge topics in reproductive biology to provide students with opportunities to 1) become aware of recent developments in reproductive biology, 2) develop critical thinking skills and 3) formulate theoretical models to underpin development of research programs. The course is designed for advanced students in reproductive biology and other biosciences.

Requirements

Consent of instructor is required and enrollment will be limited. Extensive experience in reproductive biology or a formal course in reproduction is required. It is strongly recommended that students have completed a course in molecular biology or cell biology.

Course Format

The course meets for 2 hours once weekly. Before class, students are assigned one or more review articles and one original research paper by the instructor. The first hour of the class is taken up with a general discussion of the concepts illustrated in the review article(s). The original research paper is evaluated in the second hour in a discussion lead by an individual student. Assignments to papers will be made by the professor.

Time and Place

Tuesday, 4:00-6:00 PM, Room 102 Bldg 499 (L.E. "Red" Larson Dairy Science Building).

Presentations

The discussion on the review papers will be lead by Dr. Hansen but students will be given an opportunity for shaping the direction of the discussion. Discussion topics will involve (but not be limited to) the following:

- Development of models to organize concepts
- Critical evaluation of concept
- Clarification of confusing areas/concepts
- Critical evaluation experiments on which concepts are based
- Implications for other areas of reproductive biology
- Areas for future research

The research paper will generally be published in the last two years and will represent a key paper in the progress in that area of research. The discussion of the research paper will be informal (i.e., without lots of overheads or powerpoint slides) and will focus on the following: The hypothesis, experimental design, results obtained, and significance of the results. All students will be expected to be involved in the discussion of the research paper.

Readings and Textbooks

Files (pdf) of each paper will be located on Canvas. There are no required or recommended textbooks.

Grades and Grade Points

Grading is based on attendance (50%) and participation (50%). The highest grade possible for a student missing two lectures is a B+ and, for a student missing three lectures, is a B. Any student missing four or more lectures will be given an incomplete grade.

For information on current UF policies for assigning grade points, see <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/Links to an external site.>

Make-up Work

It won't be possible to recreate the discussions at times other than in class. Students should read the papers for class even if they cannot attend.

CLASS SCHEDULE

Jan 13 Organizational Session

Jan 20

Jan 27
Feb 3
Feb 10
Feb 17
Feb 24
Mar 3
Mar 10
Mar 17 – NO CLASS Spring Break
Mar 24
Mar 31
Apr 7
Apr 14
Apr 21

Online Course Evaluation

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/Links to an external site.> Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/Links to an external site.>

Academic Honesty

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Conduct Code specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Go to <https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/process/student-conduct-code/Links to an external site.> to read the Conduct Code. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor.

In-Class Recording

Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor.

A “class lecture” is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and delivered by any instructor hired or appointed by the University, or by a guest instructor, as part of a University of Florida course. A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or lecturer during a class session.

Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To “publish” means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third party note/tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student

Software Use

All faculty, staff and students of the university are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against university policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate.

Campus Helping Resources

Health and Wellness U Matter, We Care: If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu, 352-392-1575, or visit U Matter, We Care website at <https://umatter.ufl.edu/Links to an external site.> to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.

Counseling and Wellness Center: Visit the Counseling and Wellness Center website at <https://counseling.ufl.edu/Links to an external site.> or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.

Student Health Care Center: Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or visit the Student Health Care Center website at <https://shcc.ufl.edu/Links to an external site.>

University Police Department: Visit UF Police Department website at <https://police.ufl.edu/Links to an external site.> or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).

UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center: For immediate medical care call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; Visit the UF Health Emergency Room and Trauma Center website at <https://ufhealth.org/emergency-room-trauma-centerLinks to an external site.>

GatorWell Health Promotion Services: For prevention services focused on optimal wellbeing, including Wellness Coaching for Academic Success, visit the GatorWell website at <https://gatorwell.ufsa.ufl.edu/Links to an external site.> or call 352-273-4450.

E-learning technical support: Contact the UF Computing Help Desk at 352-392-4357 or via e-mail at helpdesk@ufl.edu.

Career Connections Center: Reitz Union Suite 1300, 352-392-1601 or <https://career.ufl.edu/Links to an external site.> Career assistance and counseling services.

Library Support: See <https://uflib.ufl.edu/find/ask/Links to an external site.> for various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

Teaching Center: Broward Hall, 352-392-2010, <https://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/Links to an external site.> or make an appointment at 352- 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.

Writing Studio: 2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138 or <https://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/Links to an external site.> Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.

Student Complaints On-Campus: Visit the Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code webpage at <https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-%20code-student-conduct-code/Links to an external site.> for more information.

On-Line Students Complaints: View the Distance Learning Student Complaint Process at <https://distance.ufl.edu/getting-help/student-complaint-process/Links to an external site.>

Services for Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the disability Resource Center. Go to <https://disability.ufl.edu/get-started/Links to an external site.> to get started with the Disability Resource Center. It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.