

Graduate Seminar in Animal Molecular and Cellular Biology

ANS 6936

Class Periods: Friday 3:00 to 4:00 PM

Location: Room 201, Dairy Sciences Building

Instructor:

John Bromfield

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Ph: 352-294-6991

Office Hours: Friday at 4PM following seminar.

Course Description

This course provides students the opportunity to prepare and present an engaging and informative research seminar. In addition, students will be exposed to world leaders in scientific disciplines, be able to engage with fellow scientists with meaningful scientific discussion and develop skills for scientific communication.

Course Objectives

- Students are expected to engage in seminars and present a seminar based on their own research work.
- Seminar presentations will provide students the opportunity to present a scientific seminar. Seminar presentations will be evaluated on the students ability to deliver a talk based on the standard scientific method: presenting background, rationale, hypothesis, methodology, results, discussion, and conclusions.
- Students will learn to engage a scientific audience by fielding questions from the audience based on the presented seminar.
- Active participation in all other seminars will facilitate scientific rigor in a students development and build scientific communication skills. This will be achieved by asking questions and providing informative comments following other seminars.

Course Schedule

A complete schedule of the seminars to be presented can be found on the AMCB website (<https://programs.ifas.ufl.edu/animal-molecular-and-cellular-biology/events/seminars/>)

Attendance Policy, Class Expectations, and Make-Up Policy

Students are required to attend all seminars throughout the semester and present a 45-minute seminar at a determined date within the seminar schedule. Absences count from the first-class meeting. Acceptable reasons for absences include illness, serious family emergencies, military duty, life-threatening weather conditions, religious holidays, special curricular requirements, and participation in official UF activities. Instructors must excuse absences due to court-ordered legal obligations, such as jury duty or subpoena. They may excuse absences for other reasons as well.

Evaluation of Grades

| Assignment | Total Points | Percentage of Final Grade |
|--|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| Seminar presentation | 25 | 80% |
| Participation (12 seminars, 1 pt each) | 12 | 10% |
| Attendance (12 seminars, 1 pt each) | 12 | 10% |
| | | 100% |

Participation will be evaluated on the student's interaction during seminars (thus attendance is mandatory). This will include asking questions and providing comment at the conclusion of the seminar. In addition, student interactions with speakers at the conclusion of seminars is equally valued. In the absence of personal interaction with speakers, students will be expected to write a brief 1 paragraph summary of each seminar to indicate participation in the delivery of the seminar.

Students will be required to complete an online survey for every seminar. These surveys are designed to encourage student engagement during the seminar and actively learn positive presentation skills by evaluating the presentations of all seminars during the semester. These evaluations will play a major role in establishing a students participation in the seminar series throughout the semester. At the completion of the semester students will receive anonymous feedback regarding their own presentations from fellow students to aid in the development of presentation skills.

Seminar presentations given by the student will be evaluated on 1) content and organization, 2) visual presentation, 3) delivery of content, 4) use of scientific structure including background, rationale, hypothesis, methodology, results, discussion, and conclusions, and 5) audience engagement and addressing questions and comments. Each criterion will be evaluated on a 5 point scale.

Graduate students of the AMCB are required to present two separate seminars in two different semesters for credit during their program. Students taking ANS 6936 for a second time will be evaluated on their ability to improve their presentation skills based on feedback provided following the presentation of the first seminar.

Grading Policy

| Grade | Percent | Grade Points |
|--------------|----------------|---------------------|
| A | 90.0 - 100.0 | 4.00 |
| A- | 87.0 - 89.9 | 3.67 |
| B+ | 84.0 - 86.9 | 3.33 |
| B | 81.0 – 83.9 | 3.00 |
| B- | 78.0 - 80.9 | 2.67 |
| C+ | 75.0 - 79.9 | 2.33 |
| C | 72.0 – 74.9 | 2.00 |
| C- | 69.0 - 71.9 | 1.67 |
| D+ | 66.0 - 68.9 | 1.33 |
| D | 63.0 - 65.9 | 1.00 |

| Grade | Percent | Grade Points |
|--------------|----------------|---------------------|
| D- | 60.0 - 62.9 | 0.67 |
| E | 0 - 59.9 | 0.00 |

More information on UF grading policy may be found at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/graduate/?catoid=10&navoid=2020#grades>

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/>

Students Requiring Accommodations

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect 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.

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. 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 ufl.bluera.com/ufl/. [Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students here.](#)

Academic Honesty

As a student at the University of Florida, you have committed yourself to uphold the Honor Code, which includes the following pledge: "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity." You are expected to exhibit behavior consistent with this commitment to the UF academic community, and on all work submitted for credit 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." It is assumed that you will complete all work independently in each course unless the instructor provides explicit permission for you to collaborate on course tasks (e.g. assignments, papers, quizzes, exams). Furthermore, as part of your obligation to uphold the Honor Code, you should report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. It is your individual responsibility to know and comply with all university policies and procedures regarding academic integrity and the Student Honor Code. Violations of the Honor Code at the University of Florida will not be tolerated. Violations will be reported to the Dean of Students Office for consideration of disciplinary action. For more information regarding the Student Honor Code, please see:

<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code>.

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.

Services for Students with Disabilities

The Disability Resource Center coordinates the needed accommodations of students with disabilities. This includes registering disabilities, recommending academic accommodations within the classroom, accessing special adaptive computer equipment, providing interpretation services and mediating faculty-student disability related issues. Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.

0001 Reid Hall, 352-392-8565, <https://disability.ufl.edu/>

Campus Helping Resources

Students experiencing crises or personal problems that interfere with their general well-being are encouraged to utilize the university's counseling resources. The Counseling & Wellness Center provides confidential counseling services at no cost for currently enrolled students. Resources are available on campus for students having personal problems or lacking clear career or academic goals, which interfere with their academic performance.

•University Counseling & Wellness Center, 3190 Radio Road, 352-392-1575,

www.counseling.ufl.edu

Counseling Services
Groups and Workshops
Outreach and Consultation
Self-Help Library
Wellness Coaching

•U Matter We Care, [www.umatter.ufl.edu/](http://www.umatter.ufl.edu)

•Career Connections Center, First Floor JWRU, 392-1601 [https://career.ufl.edu/](https://career.ufl.edu)

•Student Success Initiative, <http://studentsuccess.ufl.edu>.

Student Complaints

•Residential Course: <https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/>.

•Online Course: <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process>

Additional Information

Instructors may choose to clarify in their syllabus their teaching philosophy, expectations for classroom behavior, utilization of e-learning, and other information that will help students succeed in the course.