

## Syllabus

Instructor:

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### COURSE OUTLINE

Time: On line course with weekly assignments.

Grading policy: Class participation and on line attendance for discussion board postings (20%). Sometime within the semester you will be required to conduct two oral presentations (in some cases this may be done with a partner). These will be recorded and either managed through YouTube or through ECHO360 or with the instructor to post on a web page. The media needs to be available for all students in the class. The oral presentation will be a major part of the grade (70%). A comprehensive Final Exam in essay format (10%) will be on a subset of the presentations viewed and on the nature of web based media presentation of what appears to be advantageous for conducting scientific discussion via web media.

You will be required to sign up on a topic, research that topic and organize a presentation in which you will then present to the class. The topic can also be a research project that you are involved in. The class will ask questions and you are to encourage a discussion of the topic and answer questions from the audience through an on line discussion board.

International students will also be participating in the course and presenting. They may not be enrolled in the University of Kentucky course however they may be enrolled in an equivalent course at their home institution. All students are required to participate with a video submission of their presentation and engaged in the discussion board for each presentation.

Link for topics and papers

Go to the <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/>

These journals offer you some topics that might be of interest to you for the course. Note— not all papers are full access to all the journals. One can also email the authors of papers and ask them to send you a PDF version of their paper for the course discussion.

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### Syllabus

Date Topic Speaker

Pick a topic and be able to present it via Power point. Plan on performing two different presentations, each 15 minutes in length. The online questions and discussion will be linked with the presentation either via a web page or black board. If we have issues with posting by international students they can email me their text and I will post on a web page for all students in the course students to view. The 1<sup>st</sup> presentation will be reviewed by the

## Syllabus

UK class and international students. After comments are provided, a second presentation on a different topic or content will be given by the student for seeing improvement in the quality of presentation via this web media and for the scientific content of the presentation.

The theme for FALL 2012 is on "Current Problems in Biology"

You can email me your topic then I will post it on the www site so others will know what topic you choose.

### **Dates:**

Two presentations per week

Presentations	posted by	Date	Topic	University location
1 & 2	8/25	TBA		
	8/30	TBA		
3 & 4	9/6			
	9/8			
5 & 6	9/13			
	9/15			
7 & 8	9/20			
	9/22			
9 & 10	9/27			
	9/29			
11 & 12	10/4			
	10/6			
12 & 13	10/11			
	10/13			
14 & 15	10/18			
	10/20			
	10/25			
16 & 17	10/27			
	11/1			
18 & 19	11/3			
	11/8			
20 & 21	11/10			
	11/15			
22 & 23	11/17			
	11/22			
24 & 25	11/24			
	11/29			
26 & 27	12/1			
	12/6			
FINAL EXAM week				(Just email responses to questions back)

## Syllabus

### **Course Description:**

The primary purpose of this seminar is to prepare students to discuss science topics (Research or published works) and to learn a means to be effective in presentation via web based media. As part of the seminar, each student is responsible for selecting a topic approved by a Faculty Mentor. Presenting a research topic or paper orally in the context of the seminar is key and will be used for providing student feedback from peers and the instructors.

By the completion of this course, students will have:

1. Worked with faculty to provide a specific research or presentation topic
2. Learned to conduct a literature review relevant to the topic
3. Learned to present via web based media
4. Learned to join in a discussion board and learn to be self critical with feed back from peers and mentors for improvement.
5. Learned to work internationally with other students also presenting content in the course.

**Course Prerequisites:** (for Univ of KY students: BIO 150-153 or equivalent introductory biology sequence)

**Official Course Text :** none

### **Grade Progress :**

Grades for all presentations will be sent to the student after it is posted and viewed with 48 hours.

Class participation and on line attendance for discussion board postings (20%).

Two presentations (70%).

A Final Exam in essay format (10%) will be on a subset of the presentations viewed and on the nature of web based media presentation of what appears to be advantageous for conducting scientific discussion via web media. Students will email this to the instructor.

### **Numerical course performance will be the equivalent of:**

90% - 100% = A

80% -89% = B

70% - 79% = C

60% - 69% = D

< 60% = E

### **General Course Policies**

#### **1. Missing assignments:**

A. Illness of the student or serious illness of a member of the student's immediate family. The instructor shall have the right to request appropriate verification.

## Syllabus

B. The death of a member of the student's immediate family. The instructor shall have the right to request appropriate verification.

C. Trips for members of student organizations sponsored by an academic unit, trips for University classes, and trips for participation in intercollegiate athletic events. When feasible, the student must notify the instructor prior to the occurrence of such absences, but in no case shall such notification occur more than one week after the absence. Instructors may request formal notification from appropriate university personnel to document the student's participation in such trips.

D. Major Religious Holidays. Students are responsible for notifying the instructor in writing of anticipated absences due to their observance of such holidays no later than the last day for adding a class.

E. Any other circumstances which the instructor finds reasonable cause for nonattendance. Students missing class-work due to an excused absence bear the responsibility of informing the instructor about their excused absence within one week following the period of the excused absence (except where prior notification is required), and of making up the missed work. The instructor shall give the student an opportunity to make up the work and/or the exams missed due to an excused absence, and shall do so, if feasible, during the semester in which the absence occurred.

## 2. Academic Honesty

Cheating or committing acts of plagiarism on any graded material is not tolerated in this course! All students are expected to uphold a basic standard of academic honesty as outlined by the University of Kentucky Senate Rules (<http://www.uky.edu/USC/New/SenateRulesMain.htm>).

### University Senate Rules Regarding Plagiarism (SR 6.3.1)

– Plagiarism: All academic work, written or otherwise, submitted by students to their instructors or other academic supervisors, is expected to be the result of their own thought, research, or self-expression. In cases where students feel unsure about a question of plagiarism involving their work, they are obliged to consult their instructors on the matter before submission.

When students submit work purporting to be their own, but which in any way borrows ideas, organization, wording or anything else from another source without appropriate acknowledgment of the fact, the students are guilty of plagiarism.

### University Senate Rules Regarding Cheating (SR 6.3.2)

--Cheating is defined by its general usage. It includes, but is not limited to, the wrongfully giving, taking, or presenting any information or material by a student with the intent of aiding himself/herself or another on any academic work which is considered in any way in

## Syllabus

the determination of the final grade. The fact that a student could not have benefited from an action is not by itself proof that the action does not constitute cheating. Any question of definition shall be referred to the University Appeals Board.

### **3. Classroom Behavior, Decorum and Civility**

As a student engaging in a myriad of intellectual pursuits, you are expected to maintain a level of dignity and respect towards faculty, staff, and fellow students. You are expected to value differences among all members of our academic community. You have the right to take reasoned exception and to voice opinions contrary to those offered by the instructor and/or other students (S.R. 6.1.2). Equally, a faculty member has the right -- and the responsibility -- to ensure that all academic discourse occurs in a context characterized by respect and civility. Acceptable decorum and civility does not include attacks of a personal nature or statements denigrating another on the basis of race, sex, religion, sexual orientation, age, national/regional origin.

### **4. Disabilities and medical conditions**

If you have a documented disability that requires academic accommodation, please contact Disability Resource Center so proper arrangements can be made. To receive special accommodations in this course you must provide a Letter of Accommodation from the Disability Resource Center (Room 2, alumni Gym, 257-2754; email to [jkarbes@email.uky.edu](mailto:jkarbes@email.uky.edu)) for coordination of the campus disability services available to you.