MCB Journal Club
Course Syllabus

Course Number: GMS 6690

Credit Hours: One (1) credit hour

Course Format: Student presentations discussions of articles.

Course Description:
The MCB Journal Club is student driven. Each student will pick an article for individual presentation and group discussion. The articles will cover a wide variety of molecular cell biology topics based on the student interests. The paper discussions will enhance the presentation, problem solving, and critical thinking skills of the student.

Prerequisites:
None

Contacts:
If you have questions about the course or its content contact the Course Coordinators, Dr. William Dunn or Dr. Alexander Ishov

Schedule: The course is offered on Tuesdays at 1-2 pm in the Fall and Spring Semesters.

Course Goals:
The goals of the course are three-fold:
1) to develop skills in presenting scientific data;
2) to provide a foundation for analytically reviewing articles and interpreting scientific data; and
3) to promote problem solving and critical thinking skills.

Learning Outcomes:
Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:
1) critically read, interpret, and present published data;
2) discuss the strengths and weaknesses of publications;
3) enhance critical thinking and problem solving skills; and
4) demonstrate skills in interpreting and critically evaluating scientific data.

Learning Resources:
Publications from a variety of molecular cell biology journals will be discussed. There will be one paper discussion per class hour.

Grading:
Grading will not be based on the publication chosen, but will be subjective based on the student presentation (50%) and student discussions (50%).
**Attendance:**
Attendance is required unless prior approval by the course directors. A student’s overall success, however, is based reading the articles and coming to class prepared to discuss the data. Students are strongly encouraged to develop self-discipline to complete all the readings.

**Student Support Services**
As a student in a distance learning course or program you have access to the same student support services that on campus students have. For course content questions contact your instructor. For any technical issues you encounter with your course please contact the UF computing Help Desk at 352-392-4357. For Help Desk hours visit: [http://helpdesk.ufl.edu/](http://helpdesk.ufl.edu/). For a list of additional student support services links and information please visit: [http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-services](http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-services)

**Health and Wellness**

U Matter, We Care:
If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu or 352 392-1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.

Counseling and Wellness Center: [http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx](http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx), 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS)  
Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.

University Police Department, 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies). [http://www.police.ufl.edu/](http://www.police.ufl.edu/)

**Academic Resources**

E-learning technical support, 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to Learning-support@ufl.edu. [https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml](https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml).


Library Support, [http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask](http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask) Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

**Special Accommodations**
Students requesting disability-related academic accommodations must first register with the Disability Resource Center. [http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/)
The Disability Resource Center will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.

**Complaints**
Should you have any complaints with your experience in this course please visit [http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaints](http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaints) to submit a complaint.