GMS 6096: Introduction to NIH Grant Writing for Biomedical Sciences 2020

Spring 2020 (1 Credit)

Director: Diego E. Rincon-Limas, Ph.D. diego.rincon@neurology.ufl.edu

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Office hours: immediately after class and by email appointment

Course Description:

This 14-week course will cover introductory topics related to preparing and submitting an NIH grant application. The format will be a one-hour session (lecture + question / answer) once a week for 14 weeks. The course will be geared towards biomedical sciences but can be applied to other areas. There are no previous requisites, since this will be the introductory course for grant writing. The course covers a span of topics, from planning stages and discussion of each required section (specific aims, research plan, biosketch, budget, etc.), to finishing and reviewing the application. The 14-week will also provide time to cover each topic in detail, including relevant types of awards, the NIH scoring system and strategies for success. The purpose of this course is to provide novice grant applicants with 1) a solid understanding of the grant preparation and submission process, and 2) the confidence to undertake their first NIH grant.

Textbook (Not required but a very useful reference): Russell SW, Morrison DC. 2019. The Grant Application Writer’s Workbook – National Institutes of Health. (Grant Writers’ Seminars and Workshops, LLC, PO Box 957, Los Olivos, CA 93441-0957; available at: www.GrantCentral.com) $85

Note that the course is limited to 20 students.

Lecture Schedule:

Wednesday 2-3 PM, DeWeese Auditorium in McKnight Brain Institute (Room LG-101A)

Lecture Topics:

* - Denotes Class Assignment

January 8, 2020
Getting started: NIH structure and grant opportunities
Diego E. Rincon-Limas, Dept Neurology

January 15, 2020
Proposal preparation: How to put all the pieces together – on time!
Diego E. Rincon-Limas, Dept Neurology

January 22, 2020
Overview of NIH Predoctoral and Postdoctoral Awards
Diego E. Rincon-Limas, Dept Neurology

January 29, 2020
K awards: Is a “career award” right for you?
Harry S. Nick, Dept. Neuroscience
February 5, 2020
R03 and R21 grants: When are they appropriate?
Diego E. Rincon-Limas, Dept Neurology

February 11, 2020 ← Tuesday
NIH forms: Bio Sketches. Facilities and Equipment, Letters of support and more… -*
Diego E. Rincon-Limas, Dept Neurology

February 19, 2020
Strategies for Success
Diego E. Rincon-Limas, Dept Neurology

February 26, 2020
Specific Aims -*
Diego E. Rincon-Limas, Dept Neurology

March 4, 2020
No class- Spring Break

March 11, 2020
Significance and Innovation
Diego E. Rincon-Limas, Dept Neurology

March 18, 2020
The Research Approach: Do’s and don’ts
Diego E. Rincon-Limas, Dept Neurology

March 25, 2020
Budget preparation and Justification -*
Diego E. Rincon-Limas, Dept Neurology

April 1, 2020
The NIH scoring system and funding decisions
Diego E. Rincon-Limas, Dept Neurology

April 8, 2020
Response to Peer Review and resubmission strategies
Diego E. Rincon-Limas, Dept Neurology

April 15, 2020
Abstract, Narrative, Pre-Submission Review and Concluding Remarks
Diego E. Rincon-Limas, Dept Neurology

Evaluation:

Class participation, including questions and comments, will contribute 20% to the final grade.

Students taking the course for credit will have to complete the assignments corresponding to Specific Aims, Biosketch, and Budget/Budget Justification of a real or hypothetical grant.
Class Participation: 20%

Completed assignments: 80% (must be submitted before the due date indicated by the instructor)

The grade scale for the course is as follows:

>90% = A, 86.7%-89.9% = A-, 83.3%-86.6%=B+, 80%-83.2%=B, 76.7%-79.9% = B-, 73.3%-76.6%=C+, 70%-73.2%=C, 66.7%-69.9% = C-, 63.3%-66.6%=D+, 60%-63.2%=D, 56.7%-59.9% = D-, 53.3%-56.6%=E+, 50% or less = E.

Grade Points for determining GPA will be calculated as follows, according to university policy:

A minimum C will be required to pass the course

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<th>Passing Grade</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>A-</th>
<th>B+</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>B-</th>
<th>C+</th>
<th>C</th>
<th>C-</th>
<th>D+</th>
<th>D</th>
<th>D-</th>
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<td>Grade Points</td>
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Attendance and Make-Up Policies:

Students are expected to attend and participate in all class sessions. Personal issues with respect to class attendance or fulfillment of course requirements will be handled on an individual basis. Absences due to illness, professional travel, etc. will be excused per UF policy and students shall make every effort to notify the instructor as soon as possible.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:

To request classroom accommodation because of a disability, students must first register with the Dean of Students Office (http://www.dso.ufl.edu/). The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to you, which you then give to the instructor when requesting accommodation. The College is committed to providing reasonable accommodations to assist students in their coursework.

Online Course Evaluation Process:

Student assessment of instruction is an important part of efforts to improve teaching and learning. At the end of the semester, students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course using a standard set of university and college criteria. These evaluations are conducted online at https://evaluations.ufl.edu

Campus Helping Resources:

Students experiencing crises or personal problems that interfere with their general wellbeing 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/cwc/

U Matter We Care: www.umatter.ufl.edu/