Instructor: Chuan (River) Xiao
Phone: 747-8657
Office: CCS 2.0310
Email: cxiao@utep.edu
Class Meet: R 5:00-5:50am @ BE 300
Office Hrs: After class TR 1:30-2:30pm or by appointment

Scope: Reading and discussions of various topics in structural biochemistry related to bioinformatics.

Objective: Each student is expected to give at least one presentation during the course. Students who complete this course will be able
1. to practice literature searching on topic in the area of structural biochemistry
2. to practice presentations on topics in the area of structural biochemistry
3. to practice presentations on research results.
4. to gain experience in reading the literature that not in the same research field.
5. to develop critical listening and questioning skills

Prerequisites: It is recommended that students take CHEM 3330 and obtain B above grade prior taking this course.
It is also recommended that students take BINF/CHEM 5431 together with the course.

Class Meetings: Tuesday & Thursday 3:00-5:50am at BE 300/302 (combined with BINF/CHEM 5341)
(All cell phones and pagers should be turned OFF during class!!!)

Class Attendance: CLASS ATTENDANCE IS REQUIRED: Attendance will be routinely taken in the form of presentation, asking questions and criticize during the presentation. Students are responsible for attending lecture regularly and knowing what takes place during classes. This includes not only the material covered in the class, but also all assignments, changes in the syllabus, etc. IF you MUST miss a class, YOU need to make a special effort to learn what occurred during your absence. You also need to submit documents to be approved by the instructor for your absence to get documented absences (DA) so that it will not affect your scores. Otherwise, zero score will be included in your score. Absence documents that are submitted two weeks later than the absence date will NOT be accepted.

Activities Each student will search literature according to the assigned topic and provide his/her top three papers that he/she thinks that will benefit him/herself as well as the fellow students. The papers need to be research papers. No review paper is allowed. However, the student might need to read review papers to be able to present enough background information in his/her presentation. Students are required to send their pick of papers (list) to the instructor before the deadlines with their short comments (no more than five sentences) for the best one why they pick that paper within the three papers listed. The instructor will review all the papers and assign them randomly to student to present. Student may or may not present his/her choice of papers but a paper submitted by other students. There will be two rounds of paper search and paper presentation and students will submit two rounds of papers but will only present once this semester.
1. The first round of paper search will be about protein homologous modeling or simulation (tentative deadline will be Feb 14th).
2. The second round of paper search will be about high impact structure determined recently (tentative deadline will be Apr. 7th).
There will be two days within the semester reserved for presentations, each day, three or four students will present.
1. When one student present, one other student will be assigned to chair the presentation. The student who chairs the presentation will review and summarize the presentation.
2. The paper will be assigned to the student from the instructor. The student needs to present it in a 30 minutes talk. The presentation should include at least the following components:
   a. Enough background and what is the problem that the paper wants to solve.
   b. The overall experiments results.
   c. At least one experiment result explained in detail.
   d. The final conclusion.
   e. Student opinion to the paper.
3. The other students will attend, join the discussion and questions as well as criticize the presentation. Other students (excluded chairing students and presenting students) will need to read the paper before the class and raise at least one question during the presentation.
## Grading Criteria

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<tr>
<th>Content</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Literature Searching ability</td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seminar Performance (understanding of the paper, problem, clarity of the presentation, ability to answer questions)</td>
<td>50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class Participation (chairing, quality of questions &amp; contribution to discussions)</td>
<td>20</td>
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**Total possible points** 100

## Withdrawal Policy:

There is a deadline (Apr. 6th) for you to withdraw from any course with an automatic “W”. Please note that it is the student’s responsibility to officially withdraw from a course. The College of Science (CoS) will remain aligned with the University and not approve any drop requests after that date. All grades of Incomplete “I” must be accompanied by an Incomplete Contract that has been signed by the instructor, student, departmental chair, and the dean. The CoS requests the contract be limited to one month based upon completion data. A grade of “I” is only used in extraordinary circumstances confined to a limited event such as a missed exam, project, or lab. If the student has missed a significant amount of work (e.g. multiple assignments or tasks), a grade of Incomplete is not appropriate or warranted.

## Disability:

If you have or suspect a disability and need accommodations, you should contact The Disabled Student Services Office (DSSO) at 747-5148. You can also email the office at dss@utep.edu or go by the Union Building East, Room 106. For additional information, visit the DSSO website at [www.utep.edu/dsso/](http://www.utep.edu/dsso/).
## Tentative Schedule

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Assignment Student</th>
<th>Paper Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 14th</td>
<td>First round paper review submission: protein homologous modeling or simulation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 2nd</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr. 4th</td>
<td>Second round paper review submission: high impact structure determined recently</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 4th</td>
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