

BIOL5130/BIOL6130

Seminar Spring 2023

Instructor: Dr. Eli Greenbaum, Office: Biology B301; egreenbaum2@utep.edu (allow up to 48 hours for a response) Office hours by appointment.

Class Meetings: 12:30 PM - 1:20 PM F in Biosciences Auditorium 2.168

Course Objectives: The goals of this course are to learn innovative advancements in biological sciences research. Students are expected to synthesize information from research seminar presentations, and use this information to develop their critical thinking skills and purview of the field.

Grading: final grades will be assigned as: A (90-100), B (80-89), C (70-79), D (60-69), F (<60). You will be graded with the following criteria:

Attendance:	25% (you are allowed to miss one class without an excuse)
Presentation:	25%
Assignments:	50% (you are allowed to miss one assignment without penalty)

Attendance: you must be present and attentive for the entire class to receive credit. A sign-in sheet will be used to confirm your attendance so be sure to sign in for each class. Please ensure that cell phones and other electronic devices are in silent mode to prevent disruptions. You are free to take notes on electronic devices, but you should not be checking email, surfing the web, or using the devices for any other purpose except note taking. If you must arrive late, leave early, or exit the classroom during class time, please do so quietly and with as little disruption as possible.

Presentation: your Powerpoint presentation should be 1-2 slides and should be designed in an elevator-pitch format for a layperson (non-scientists), with a maximum time of 2 minutes. The presentation should include information summarizing why your project is important for the general public, the main question or problem you are addressing, the methods you are using, and preliminary results or expected outcomes.

Assignment: A 3-sentence summary of the presentations, including at least two major findings, should be submitted to the professor via email to demonstrate understanding of the topic. Each assignment will be due by noon on Monday following each Friday seminar.

Netiquette: It is the student's responsibility to check their email several times a week to ensure they do not miss important emails and announcements from the professor via Blackboard. Students are expected to communicate with the professor and each other in a professional and respectful manner at all times—failure to do so can result in penalties to the final grade, or in extreme cases, reporting to the UTEP Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution. Please consult this website for more information:

<https://www.utep.edu/extendeduniversity/utepconnect/blog/october-2017/10-rules-of-netiquette-for-students.html> Mass emails to other students in the course via Blackboard or other platforms are not permitted, and can result in penalties to grades. Avoid sending messages via Blackboard, and instead email the professor directly.

COVID-19 Policy: Please stay home if you have been diagnosed with COVID-19 or are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms. If you are feeling unwell, please let me know as soon as possible, so that we can work on appropriate accommodations. If you have tested positive for COVID-19, you are encouraged to report your results to covidaction@utep.edu, so that the Dean of Students Office can provide you with support and help with communication with your professors. The Student Health and Wellness Center is equipped to provide COVID-19 testing: <https://www.utep.edu/chs/covid-testing/index.html> The best way that Miners can take care of Miners is to get the vaccine. If you still need the vaccine, it is widely available in the El Paso area. For more information about the current rates, testing, and vaccinations, please visit epstrong.org

Makeup Policy: Makeups for missed classes and/or assignments will be offered to students who miss a class or deadline because of illness, vehicle breakdown, death in the family, or university-sponsored activity, **but written documentation must be provided within 1 week of the missed class/deadline via email to the professor.** Makeups are not an option for poor grades on completed assignments.

Extra Credit: No additional extra credit will be offered at any time during the entire duration of this course. Requests for extra credit assignments will be denied – no exceptions.

DROP DATE: The UTEP Spring 2023 drop deadline is **March 30, 2023**. The College of Science will remain aligned with the University and not approve any drop requests after that date.

Disability and Military Statements: If you have a disability and need classroom accommodations, please contact The Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at 747-5148, or by email to cass@utep.edu, or visit their office located in UTEP Union East, Room 106. For additional information, please visit the CASS website at www.sa.utep.edu/cass. If you are a military student with the potential of being called to military service and/or training during the course of the semester, please contact the professor within the first week of class to arrange in advance for makeup assignments, etc.

Schedule: **subject to change**

Class	Date	Topic
1	Jan 20	Introduction and discussion of the course
2	Jan 27	Evolutionary biologist candidate job seminar
3	Feb 3	Evolutionary biologist candidate job seminar
4	Feb 10	Raul Diaz, California State LA
5	Feb 17	Samuel Belteton, NMSU
6	Feb 24	Naoki Yamanaka, UC Riverside
7	Mar 3	Bruce Appel, University of Colorado
8	Mar 10	David Sherman, University of Washington
	Mar 17	SPRING BREAK NO CLASS
9	Mar 24	Dr. Graciela Unguez (G-RISE seminar)
	Mar 31	CESAR CHAVEZ DAY NO CLASS
10	Apr 7	TBD

11	Apr 14	TBD
12	Apr 21	Christopher Baker, NMSU
13	Apr 28	Student Presentations