Biology 4398: Special Problems (3 units)

Instructor: Dr. Jianying Zhang
Office hours: By appointment
Office location: Biosciences 3.124
Phone: (915) 747-6995
Email: jzhang@utep.edu

Text: None.

Prerequisites: Instructor approval; laboratory fee required.

Objective: This is a laboratory research course, designed to provide students with hands-on experience in research and increase their familiarity with laboratory methods and processes. The knowledge gained in this course will provide a background for students interested in pursuing careers in biology, biotechnology, research, health/medicine or the allied health professions. Students will participate in research projects in faculty mentor’s laboratory, interact with other students, staff and faculty, attend lab meetings, and may be asked to present their data and/or published papers from the primary research literature. Research projects will be in the areas of cancer molecular biology, immunology and epidemiology.

It is expected that students will dedicate at least 10 hours per week to the completion of this course and its requirements.

Specific research projects and responsibilities will be assigned at the beginning of the semester for each student.

This course may be used as upper division elective units; however, no more than 6 hours of 4198-4298-4398 may be counted as upper division elective units toward graduation.

Exams: None.

Grading: Letter grades for this course will be determined based primarily on student attendance and performance, and will be assigned as follows:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90-100%</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80-89%</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-79%</td>
<td>C</td>
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<tr>
<td>60-69%</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59% or less</td>
<td>F</td>
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Drop date: To receive an automatic “W”, the last day to drop or withdraw from this class is shown on the Annual Academic Calendar on UTEP webpage. After this date, a
“W” can only be assigned by the Dean of the College of Science, and is only granted under exceptional circumstances.

**Academic Integrity Policy:** UTEP’s policies regarding academic integrity apply in this course. Information on this policy can be found at [http://academics.utep.edu/Default.aspx?tabid=23785](http://academics.utep.edu/Default.aspx?tabid=23785)

**Civility Statement:** Please be respectful of all students’ right to learn without disruptions. In line with this statement please make an active effort to respect the other students working in the laboratories. Avoid making excessive amounts of noise and try to remember to turn your cell phone to vibrate mode.

**Disability Statement:** 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](http://www.sa.utep.edu/cass).

**Course Schedule:** The schedule for each student will be determined on an individual basis based on that student’s course schedule etc…Graduate students wishing to perform a thesis project are expected to be in the lab working anytime they are not in class. Students are expected to be in the lab after hours and on weekends if required by the experiments being performed.