

BIOL 5301 (CRN 24489)
Select Adv Topics Biological Science
Scientific communication: how to read and write science literature
2022 Spring

Instructor: Kyung-An Han, Ph. D.
Office: 3.152 Biosciences Building
Hours: by appointment
Email: khan@utep.edu

Course Objectives:

Reading, writing and presentation of scientific papers and research are essential for graduate students and professionals. As there are many scientific papers published, it is also critical to develop effective approaches and skills to select right articles for reading, understanding and citation. This course covers four key components of scientific communications: selection, reading, writing and presentation of scientific literature and research.

Class Meetings: 4 PM – 6:20 PM, T

Classroom: Classroom Building C202

Text: No textbook

Grading: No exams

- Select, read and present review and research papers - on research papers, submit one-page summary/critiques
- Research presentations – oral and poster
- Review writing – ideally to be used for your thesis/dissertation introduction

Attendance	10%
Homework (one-page summary/critiques)	20%
Presentation (papers and research)	40%
Review paper:	30%

A=90-100, B=80-89, C= 60-80, F<59

Academic Dishonesty (e.g. Cheating/Plagiarism) & Expected Behavior: Students at UTEP are expected to behave in a manner that supports the integrity of the academic system. Cheating, plagiarism and collusion are unethical and prohibited, and will result in disciplinary action. A [zero tolerance policy for plagiarism](#) will be applied. For more information, please check the web site www.plagiarism.org. Briefly, plagiarism is using information or original wording in a paper without giving credit to the source of that information or wording: it is not acceptable. Do not submit work under your name that you did not do yourself. You may not submit work for this class that you did for another class. If you are found to be cheating or plagiarizing, you will be subject to disciplinary action per UTEP catalog policy. Refer to <http://www.utep.edu/dos/acadintg.htm> and <https://www.utep.edu/hoop/section-2/student-conduct-and-discipline.html> for further information.

Classroom Etiquette: Attendance of the entire class duration will only be counted into grade (i.e. coming late or leaving early would not be counted for attendance grade). If you must arrive late, leave early, or exit the classroom during class time for personal reasons, please do so quietly and with as little disruption as possible. Cell phones or other text messaging devices should be off. Should you need to leave them on, please put them on a vibrate or silent mode. You are welcome to use a laptop or iPad to take notes but not for other purposes including surfing, emailing and watching movies or

YouTubes.

Disabilities: If you have a documented disability and require specific accommodations, you will need to contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) in the East Union Bldg Room 106 within the first two weeks of classes. CASS can also be reached in the following ways: Phone, (915) 747-5148; E-Mail, cass@utep.edu; www.sa.utep.edu/cass. Also please see me before or after class in the first two weeks or make an appointment to discuss any special needs you might have.

Course Schedule

Module	Topic
1	Goals and organization - professional communications/etiquettes
2	Select & read research papers - overview on publication, journals, predatory journals - journal impact factor, H-index - subscription-based vs open access - databases and search engines - key words
3	Paper and research presentations Review and research papers related to a thesis/dissertation project present overview/key points review papers: present key points in each section research papers: present the goal, approaches, figures, conclusions, limitations, and next steps; write one-page summary/critiques
4	Technical Writing Writing workshop Write a critical review Poster preparation - topic selection, draft, final to submit

The schedule is subjected to be modified and please check the Blackboard for an updated one (when modified, you will be notified)

COVID-19 PRECAUTION STATEMENT: 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 Center is equipped to provide COVID-19 testing.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that people in areas of substantial or high COVID-19 transmission wear face masks when indoors in groups of people. 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, and will be available at no charge on campus during the first week of classes. For more information about the current rates, testing, and vaccinations, please visit epstrong.org.