

## **SYLLABUS: Graduate School Preparation Seminar**

SCI 1100 – Science Seminar  
Friday 3 p.m. – 4 p.m.  
Location: Biosci. Res. Bldg. Room 2.144

### **Faculty:**

Dr. Renato Aguilera, Ph.D., RISE Director  
4.144 BioSciences  
e-mail: [raquilera@utep.edu](mailto:raquilera@utep.edu)

## **INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS**

The goal of this course is to provide training on effective methods to present scientific articles. Students will also be presented with training in the ethical pursuit of research. Students will be expected to actively participate in discussion and volunteer constructive criticism to fellow students on presentation of research material. Students will also participate in sessions dedicated to the responsible conduct in research.

At the end of this course, you will become skilled at the following:

- know...the diverse methods to present scientific articles with intelligibility
- be able to...ethically write and create research articles
- understand...research topics and methods to efficiently present them
- a better understanding of Ethical Conduct in Research

## **NEEDS AND RESOURCES**

Each student will be expected to present a lecture/journal article in their area of specialization. The presentation must be presented via projector in its original article form. Detailed information on presentation requirements will be provided during class.

Each student will be required to forward a copy of their article to the whole class, including both instructors. Contact Elizabeth Quezada-Lung for a distribution list. The article must be e-mailed at least 3 days prior to the presentation.

Students will be required to attend at least one recruitment seminar and the RISE seminar—to be announced.

## **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](mailto: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](http://epstrong.org).

### **COURSE SCHEDULE**

Friday – 17050 – 3 - 4 p.m. <b>Dr. Renato Aguilera</b>
8/27 – Organizational meeting
9/3 – Graduate Application and Interview Process
9/10 – Responsible Conduct in Research Session 1
9/17 – Rigor and Reproducibility Session 1
9/24 – Student Research Presentation 1
10/1 – Student Research Presentation 2
10/8 – How to Write a Winning Statement of Purpose
10/15 – Responsible Conduct in Research Session 2
10/22 – Invited Speaker –Dr. Lizath Aguiniga (former RISE trainee)
10/28 – SACNAS Conference
11/5 – Student Research Presentation 3
11/12 – ABRCMS Conference
11/19 – Student Research Presentation 4
11/26 – Thanksgiving
11/29 – TBA
12/3 – Dead Day

## **POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

### **General Rules:**

Please come to class on time. It is disruptive and distracting when students arrive late. Refrain from personal and private conversations during lecture and/or presentations. Cell phones are to be turned off during session; we reserve the right to confiscate phone during class if we catch you texting or answering calls. We encourage and welcome discussion and questions regarding subject matter, so feel free to ask or start a discussion.

Use of laptops during class is not permitted, except if you are using it for your presentation. Class participation and interaction negates the need for laptops in this course.

**Policy on Academic Dishonesty:** Academic Dishonesty will not be tolerated. All university guidelines will be strictly followed. Please read these guidelines carefully. If you have any questions regarding university policy please contact the Dean of Students.

### **Grading Policies:**

Attendance and participation are the key components to your final grade. Attend the sessions and be prepared to participate, i.e. ask questions!

### **Grading Scale:**

**The points, maximum total = 1000, are assigned as follow:**

Presentations	500 points
Attendance	300 points
Participation	200 points

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

**DISABILITY STATEMENT:** If a student has or suspects he/she has a disability and needs an accommodation, he/she should contact the Disabled Student Services Office (DSSO) at 747-5148 or at [dss@utep.edu](mailto:dss@utep.edu) or go to Room 106 Union East Building. The student is responsible for presenting to the instructor any DSS accommodation letters and instructions.