THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO
COLLEGE OF SCIENCE
DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

Biology 4192 (CRN 34248)  Summer 2014

SENIOR SEMINAR
Course Outline

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Zaineb Al-Dahwi
Office: Biology 104
Office Hours: Mondays, and Wednesdays: 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. or by appointment
Phone: 747-8762
Email Address: zaineb@utep.edu

COURSE PERIOD: Monday July 07, 2014 - Friday August 1, 2014

COURSE MEETINGS AND LOCATIONS: Mondays & Wednesdays: 2:00 pm - 4:10 pm in the Undergraduate Learning Center Building, room #210

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK: No textbook is required.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: This course provides the opportunity for Biology Senior students to attend presentations by top researchers and professionals in the field of Public Health Sciences, Clinical Health Sciences, and Biological Sciences. The knowledge and expertise of the Speakers would give the students the opportunity to explore career options available after graduation. This course will also help the students to learn professional developmental skills for writing resumes and successful interviews which would greatly enhance their capabilities and increase their chances for success after graduation. Another goal of this course is to explore options and admission procedures for professional medical-related programs.

EVALUATION: Grades will be based on attendance, student group presentations, and daily assignments.

Grade Distribution:
Daily Assignments and In-Class Group Activities: 60%
Student Group Presentation: 30%
Attendance and participation: 10%

The Final Course Grade will be assigned based on the following grading scale:
A = 90%-100%
B = 80%-89%
C = 70%-79%
D = 60%-69%
F = 0-59%
MAKE UP POLICY: Make-up assignments will NOT be allowed. All assignments are due in the first 30 minutes of the following class period. Late assignments will not be accepted.

ATTENDANCE POLICY: Attendance of classes and labs is mandatory. Absences must be communicated at least 24 hours in advance. In case of an emergency situation, please contact the instructor by e-mail and/or phone at the earliest convenience.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: It is the policy of the University of Texas at El Paso that academic dishonesty is a completely unacceptable mode of conduct and will not be tolerated in any form. All students involved in academic dishonesty will be disciplined in accordance with the University regulations and procedures. For further information, please refer to UTEP’s Handbook of Operating Procedures, Chapter 1: Student Conduct and Discipline at http://admin.utep.edu/Default.aspx?PageContentID=2084&tabid=30292. Also, please see Plagiarism and Scholastic Integrity webpage, at UTEP’s Library: http://libraryweb.utep.edu/research/plagiarism.php.

CIVILITY STATEMENT: Students are encouraged to actively participate in all course activities. However, during lectures and labs, use of cell phones, talking, texting, and other disruptive activities are unacceptable. All cell phones must be placed in silent mode. Laptops, iPads, smart phones etc. are allowed in class only as a resource for class material. These devices cannot be used for any activity other than those related to the class session. Taking pictures by any means in the class is strictly forbidden.

ACCOMMODATIONS AND SUPPORT SERVICES: If a student has or suspects he/she has a disability and needs classroom accommodations, he/she should contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at 747-5148, or by e-mail to cass@utep.edu, or visit their office located at the UTEP Union East, Room 106. For additional information, please visit the CASS website at www.utep.edu/CASS. CASS staff are the only individuals who can validate and if need be, authorize accommodations for students with disabilities. Students registered with CASS are responsible for presenting any CASS accommodation letters and instructions to the instructor.

MILITARY STATEMENT: If you are a military student with the potential of being called to military service and/or training during the course of the semester, you are encouraged to contact the instructor by phone and/or e-mail at the earliest convenience.
**Date** | **Topic**
---|---
July 7 | Introduction and Course Information
**In-Class Activity**: Group assignments (Students to be divided into 6 groups).
**Group Homework Assignment**: Each group should find a Review Research article to be presented (by the group) on the dates indicated in the syllabus.

July 9 | **Speaker**: Dr. Kristina Mena, Associate Professor, School of Public Health, The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston

**Assignment**: Write a summary (250-300 words) of the speaker’s presentation. Find and include a copy of an event/topic related to the speaker’s talk.

July 14 | Group Presentations: Three groups will be presenting the topic of the Review Research article. A copy of the article should be turned in at the end of the presentation. The other 3 groups should prepare two questions to the presenters.

July 16 | **Speaker**: Dr. Delfina Dominguez, Professor, Clinical Laboratory Sciences Department, College of Health Sciences, The University of Texas at El Paso

**Assignment**: Write a summary (250-300 words) of the speaker’s presentation. Find and include a copy of an event/topic related to the speaker’s talk.

July 21 | Group Presentations: Three groups will be presenting the topic of the Review Research article. A copy of the article should be turned in at the end of the presentation. The other 3 groups should prepare two questions to the presenters.

July 23 | **Speaker**: Dr. Kristine Garza, Associate Professor, Department of Biological Sciences, The University of Texas at El Paso

**Assignment**: Write a summary (250-300 words) of the speaker’s presentation. Find and include a copy of an event/topic related to the speaker’s talk.

July 28 | **Speaker**: Mr. Nick Zweig, Coordinator, Internship Program, University Career Center, The University of Texas at El Paso

**In-Class Group Activity**: Prepare and discuss two questions related to techniques for successful interview and resume preparation.
*Individual Homework Assignment:* Write and turn in your resume. Include a short paragraph indicating the most important points you used/applied from the speakers presentation.

July 30

**Speaker:** Ms. Mary Wells, Program Director, Medical Professions Institute, The University of Texas at El Paso

*In-Class Group Activity:* Prepare and discuss two questions related to the requirements, application and admission procedures to professional medical-related programs in the United States

*Individual Homework Assignment:* Find a professional school in the United States and write a summary (100-150 words) of the reasons for this choice. Turn in a copy of the first page of the home page of this school with your essay.

*THIS ASSIGNMENT IS DUE AT 2:00 PM ON FRIDAY AUGUST 1, 2014 IN BIOLOGY 104.*