Finding Biomedical Research Information and Communicating Science
GMS5909

INSTRUCTORS:

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the body of the email. Otherwise, your message may not be recognized by our email
filters, and thus, may not be answered.

CLASS MEETINGS:

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2:00-3:30 pm (for 9 class meetings), Room C2-3 (HSC Library
Computer Lab, Communicore Building)

OFFICE HOURS:

Dr. Edwards: Monday, 9:00-10:00 AM
Dr. Tennant: Wednesday, 1:00-2:00 PM
Ms. Ansell: Thursday, 9:00-10:00 AM
Ms. Norton: Friday, 2:00-3:00 PM

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND GOALS:

The course is designed to introduce the most important concepts, resources, methods, and tools used in searching for and communicating biomedical information - both literature and data. Students will explore topics including literature searching, bibliographic citation software, basic NCBI resources, funding sources, data management, and plagiarism and information ethics. Students who complete the course will be able to:

- describe and effectively use information retrieval theory and strategies;
- successfully construct search strategies and operate search interfaces in a variety of literature and other biomedical databases;
- evaluate their search results for relevance and quality;
- compare and contrast bibliographic citation software as tools to organize and format article citation information;
- locate and appraise biomedical and biological grant information;
- employ appropriate tools and use them to locate gene, genome, sequence, and structure data and information;
- justify the rationale for data reuse/sharing and best practices in data management; and
- knowledgeably discuss issues concerning the ethical use of information, complying with federal access mandates, and increasing research visibility.

SCHEDULE OF TOPICS AND ASSIGNMENTS:

- August 23, Class 1: Searching the Biomedical Literature: PubMed, MeSH, and MyNCBI

- August 25, Class 2: Searching the Biomedical Literature: Web of Science, BIOSIS Previews, CAB Abstracts; **homework 1 due**

- August 30, Class 3: Next Generation Literature Searching Tools: NextBio, Quertle, Semantic Medline; **homework 2 due**

- September 1, Class 4: Organizing your information: Refworks, Endnote, Mendeley, Papers; **homework 3 due**

- September 6, Class 5: Grants – What You Need to Know Before and After Submitting; **homework 4 due; QUIZ 1**

- September 8, Class 6: NCBI Databases and Analysis Tools; **homework 5 due**

- September 13, Class 7: Data Management: Best Practices, Requirements, Resources; **homework 6 due**

- September 15, Class 8: Plagiarism, Citing and the Ethical Use of Information; **homework 7 due**

- September 20, Class 9: Measuring and Increasing your Research Visibility and Impact; class wrap up; **homework 8 due; QUIZ 2**

➢ Homework will be assigned each week. Each assignment is due at the **beginning** of the next class period.

GRADING:

Students will be assigned eight homework assignments, each worth 10 points. Students will take two in-class quizzes, each worth 20 points.

Students will also be evaluated on participation in classroom discussions, each worth 5 points (class sessions 2-9). The following rubric will be used:

0 points = unexcused absence.

1 point = present but does not contribute.

3 points = participates in discussion by adding an opinion, posing thoughtful questions, and answering questions.

5 points = makes exemplary contributions to discussion by integrating concepts, introducing novel perspectives, and drawing out contributions from classmates.

The point total for the class is 160 (80 points from homework, 40 points from quizzes, 40 points from attendance and participation). Your final grade will be based on the percentage of these total 160 points earned as follows:

Point Range (%)	Letter Grade
90% and above	A
87%-89%	A-
83%-86%	B+
80%-82%	B
77%-79%	B-
73%-76%	C+
70%-72%	C
65%-69%	C-
55%-64%	D
54% and below	E

UF GRADING POLICIES:

http://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/content.php?catoid=8&navoid=1493#grades

ATTENDANCE:

Requirements for class attendance, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at:

. Attendance at and participation in class sessions are mandatory, and is worth 25% of the total course grade.

We understand that valid absences may occur. If you have a valid documented excuse and notify us by email in advance, you will be able to make up missed class discussions through written means.

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS:

There are no required or recommended textbooks for this course. Journal article readings will be assigned.

COURSE WEBSITE:

Course website: E-Learning (Canvas) website, http://lss.at.ufl.edu

The E-Learning (Canvas) website is where the class syllabus, handouts, notes and assignments will be posted, along with any announcements. This site is also where you will find basic information such as contact information and office hours for the instructors and teaching assistants and about the textbooks. Please remember that you are responsible for all announcements made in lecture and/or posted on the course website for this class.

ONLINE COURSE EVALUATION PROCESS:

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at https://evaluations.ufl.edu. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/.

MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES FEES:

There are no materials and supplies fees assessed for this class.

UNIVERSITY HONESTY POLICY:

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code". On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The Honor Code

(http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. Additional information about academic honesty at the UF Graduate School can be found at http://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/content.php?catoid=8&navoid=1493#Academic_Honesty. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructors in this class.

➢ Academic dishonesty cannot be tolerated. All persons involved in cheating or plagiarism will receive a zero on the affected assignment or quiz, and will be reported to the Dean of Students Office.

STUDENT DEMEANOR:

Students are expected to arrive to class on time and to remain in class until the class has been dismissed. Students are expected to come to class prepared, having completed any required readings and performed any preparatory work that is assigned. While in class, students are expected to participate in class discussion, to work through hands-on examples, and to treat the other students and the instructors with respect and attention. While in class, students should not participate in texting, information seeking or viewing outside of that related to the course task at hand, talking on the phone, or other activities not related to classroom engagement and participation.

ADDITIONAL CONTACT INFORMATION:

Contact information for the Counseling and Wellness Center: 392-1575
http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx

Contact information for the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.