



DEPARTMENT OF BIOCHEMISTRY
BCHM 69000 – Biochemistry
Fall 2016 Syllabus

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Sandra Rossie
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Office hrs: by appointment

TIME AND PLACE WED 1:30-3:30PM, BCHM 102

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Because grades are based on class participation it is important for students to attend all student presentations. Let me know ahead of time if you must miss a presentation date. Excused absences include business travel (i.e. science meeting), illness, and family emergency. Excused absences must be requested ahead of time and may require official documentation at the discretion of the instructor. For unexcused absences, your grade will drop by 1 full letter (ie A to B) .

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

This is a 1-credit course designed for 1st or 2nd year graduate students. The primary focus of this course is on scientific communication. Students will learn and practice effective means to orally communicate scientific information, by giving one presentation on their own research, and one other science presentation such as a journal club, lecture, or science outreach talk.

READING: Selected reviews and primary literature, as well as short articles or chapters on presentation skills.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

BCHM 69000 students will develop their oral presentation skills using primary literature and their own research as a forum for discussion.

ASSESSMENT:

Grade Policy: Grades will be based on 2 class presentations (75% grade) and participation in class discussions and written critiques (25% grade). Grades will be based on the clarity of your presentations, your improvement from the first to the second presentation, and your participation in discussions. *As mentioned above (Attendance policy), unexcused absences will result in a lower grade. Also, if you fail to participate in discussions you cannot receive a grade higher than "B".*

Exams: No exams

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT:

Academic misconduct of any kind will not be tolerated in any course offered by the Department of Biochemistry. Information on Purdue's policies with regard to academic misconduct can be found at <http://www.purdue.edu/ODOS/osrr/integrity.htm>.

To provide you with an unambiguous definition of academic misconduct, the following text has been excerpted from "Academic Integrity: A Guide for Students", written by Stephen Akers, Ph.D., Executive Associate Dean of Students (1995, Revised 1999, 2003), and published by the Office of the Dean of Students in cooperation with Purdue Student Government, Schleman Hall of Student Services, Room 207, 475 Stadium Mall Drive West Lafayette, IN 47907-2050.

"Purdue prohibits "dishonesty in connection with any University activity. Cheating, plagiarism, or knowingly furnishing false information to the University are examples of dishonesty." [Part 5, Section III-B-2-a, [University Regulations](#)] Furthermore, the University Senate has stipulated that "the commitment of acts of cheating, lying, and deceit in any of their diverse forms (such as the use of substitutes for taking examinations, the use of illegal cribs, plagiarism, and copying during examinations) is dishonest and must not be tolerated. Moreover, knowingly to aid and abet, directly or indirectly, other parties in committing dishonest acts is in itself dishonest." [University Senate Document 72-18, December 15, 1972]

Plagiarism is a special kind of academic dishonesty in which one person steals another person's ideas or words and falsely presents them as the plagiarist's own product. This is most likely to occur in the following ways:

- using the exact language of someone else without the use of quotation marks or without giving proper credit to the author
- presenting a sequence of ideas or arranging the material of someone else even though such is expressed in one's own words, without giving appropriate acknowledgment

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS:

In the event of a major campus emergency, course requirements, deadlines and grading percentages are subject to changes that may be necessitated by a revised semester calendar or other circumstances. To get information about changes in this course consult the class Blackboard site or e-mail or phone the instructor.

If you are ill with flu-like symptoms, please do not attend class. Course materials will be provided to you.

ON-LINE COURSE EVALUATIONS:

During the last two weeks of the semester, you will be provided an opportunity to evaluate this course and your instructor(s). To this end, Purdue has transitioned to online course evaluations. On Monday of the fifteenth week of classes, you will receive an official email from evaluation administrators with a link to the online evaluation site. You will have two weeks to complete this evaluation. Your participation in this evaluation is an integral part of this course. Your feedback is vital to improving education at Purdue University. I strongly urge you to participate in the evaluation system