

Biology 4181 Seminar
First Summer Session 2020 - Online

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Class time and place: Tues, Wed, Thurs 11-11:50am, online using Blackboard Collaborate

Office Hours: TWR 10-11am, or by appointment

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Students successfully completing this class will be able to:

1. Identify, locate, and use refereed journals and other literary resources in biology.
2. Prepare and give an oral presentation based on primary research literature on a biological topic that meets stated criteria on evaluation sheet.
3. Prepare a typewritten review paper using proper citation.
4. Critically evaluate a scientific paper and presentation for clarity and content.

ATTENDANCE:

You are expected to attend all scheduled classes via Blackboard Collaborate. More than 2 absences will result in the loss of a letter grade from your final average. More than 4 absences will result in automatic failure of the course.

REQUIREMENTS:

Every student must check their ASU e-mail address regularly and use the [Blackboard website](#)ⁱ to retrieve grades and to receive assignments.

You **MUST** have access to a computer with a WebCam in order to participate in this course.

ASSESSMENT:

Your grade in this course will be determined by points earned from the components listed below and the following formula: Grade on Literature Review x 0.40 + Oral Presentation Grade x 0.40 + Participation Grade x 0.20 = Your Grade

Specific guidelines for the Literature Review and the Oral Presentation will be provided in a document posted on Blackboard. Participation grades will be earned on contributions to discussion boards and assignments in writing, editing, and critiquing others' work. Peer evaluations of your oral presentation will comprise half of your grade (after removing the lowest and highest scores from the class). The other half of your presentation grade will be assigned by me.

Due dates are strict and no late work will be accepted. Letter grades for the course will be assigned based on the following scale (modified as necessary by the attendance requirements previously listed): 90-100 = A; 80-89 = B; 70-79 = C; 60-69 = D; below 60 = F.

TOPIC SELECTION – LITERATURE REVIEW AND ORAL PRESENTATION:

Topics for your semester research project will be submitted for approval at the FOURTH class meeting (June 9). The topic you select is your choice. You must submit the proposed title of your literature review and presentation, proper *citation of two suitable primary references*, and a signed affirmation of honesty. Presentation dates will be assigned after this date. The Literature Review is due June 17.

Specific guidelines for the Literature Review and the Oral Presentation will be provided in a document posted on Blackboard.

DROP POLICY:

The last day to drop this course with a “W” is Friday, June 19.

FOR POLICIES ON ACADEMIC INTEGRITY, INCOMPLETE GRADE POLICY, STUDENT DISABILITY SERVICES, TITLE IX POLICIES, OR OBSERVANCE OF RELIGIOUS HOLY DAYS, PLEASE VISIT THE “**ORIENTATION**” MENU BUTTON IN THE BLACKBOARD COURSE.

SEMINAR IN BIOLOGY – BIO 4181 COURSE SCHEDULE

Date	Topic	Assignments/Homework
June 2	I. Introduction to Course, Criteria for Selecting a Topic	- Read "Writing a Review Paper" - Write entry in 2 discussion forums
June 3	II. The Biological Literature – Finding References	Conduct assignment on database searches
June 4	III. Citing Sources	Complete assignments (2) on methods of citing sources
June 9	IV. Note taking/ Writing Summaries	-Topic approval and date request form due -Write summary on ONE of your primary sources
June 10	V. Writing for Clarity, Flow, and Content	Complete assignment on revising sentences
June 11	VI. Individual Research Article Summaries	Locate a review article on any topic and evaluate their use of primary articles
June 16	VII. Planning and Preparing Oral Presentations	Before class write entry in discussion forum on what makes a good oral presentation
June 17	VIII. Critiquing Scientific Writing	Submit first draft of research report
June 18	IX. Professional Communication	- Conduct peer reviews of two student papers - Letter to potential employer or graduate advisor
June 23	X. Student Presentations and Evaluations	Evaluate presentations, ask questions, and provide feedback
June 24	X. Student Presentations and Evaluations	Evaluate presentations, ask questions, and provide feedback
June 25	X. Student Presentations and Evaluations	Evaluate presentations, ask questions, and provide feedback
June 30	X. Student Presentations and Evaluations	Evaluate presentations, ask questions, and provide feedback
July 1	X. Student Presentations and Evaluations	Evaluate presentations, ask questions, and provide feedback

ⁱ <http://blackboard.angelo.edu>