

**Biology 6181 Seminar: Professionalism in the Sciences  
Spring 2022**

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Class meeting time: Thursday, 12:00-12:50 pm, CAV 111

Office Hours: MW 10-12, T 10:30-12, W 1-2 pm and by appointment

**STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:** Students successfully completing this class will be able to:

1. Discuss with their peers the interpretation of and reaction to the assigned reading material/topics.
2. Relate discussion topics to their own professional development.

**REQUIRED BOOK:**

*On Being a Scientist: A Guide to the Responsible Conduct of Research*, 3<sup>rd</sup> Ed. (National Academies Press). Either hardcopy or pdf download: <https://www.nap.edu/read/12192/chapter/1>

**ATTENDANCE:**

You are expected to attend all scheduled classes. More than 2 unexcused 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. The last day to drop this course with a "W" is April 28 by 5:00pm.

**REQUIREMENTS:**

Some weeks there will be assigned readings or assignments. Each student is expected to come to class prepared to LEAD a class discussion of the assigned topic/reading. Discussion leaders will be selected at random each week. In order to receive an "A" in this course, you must submit an assignment or do some outside research that is relevant to the topic of the week and present it during the discussion. The outside information could take the form of a research article, blog, book, website, news article, training documents, or other possible sources. You should be prepared to share the information you located each week even if you are not the discussion leader. **For credit, you must provide the instructor with a short summary paragraph explaining the relevance to the topic and the citation for any of the outside information you examined.**

Every student must check their ASU e-mail address regularly and use the Blackboard website (<http://blackboard.angelo.edu>) to retrieve grades and to receive assignments.

**ASSESSMENT:**

Your grade in this course will be determined by your participation in class discussion (your contributions will be assessed by the instructor) and from credit earned on your additional research. Each student will begin the course with a B and can raise it to an A by being an active participant and receiving credit for at least 10 outside research assignments. Your grade will drop to a C if you do not receive credit for 6 of the outside research assignments or if you are not an active participant in discussion. In addition, letter grades will be modified as necessary by the attendance requirements previously listed.

## GENERAL POLICIES RELATED TO THIS COURSE

All students are required to follow the policies and procedures presented in these documents:

- [Angelo State University Student Handbook](#)<sup>i</sup>
- [Angelo State University Catalog](#)<sup>ii</sup>

### Academic Integrity

Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in all work. Any student found guilty of any form of dishonesty in academic work is subject of disciplinary action and possible expulsion from ASU.

The College of Science and Engineering adheres to the university's [Statement of Academic Integrity](#).<sup>iii</sup>

### Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

ASU is committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs or activities of the university, or be subjected to discrimination by the university, as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments of 2008 (ADAAA) and subsequent legislation.

Student Disability Services is located in the Office of Student Affairs, and is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability. It is the student's responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting an employee of the Office of Student Affairs, in the Houston Harte University Center, Room 112, or contacting the department via email at [ADA@angelo.edu](mailto:ADA@angelo.edu). For more information about the application process and requirements, visit the [Student Disability Services website](#).<sup>iv</sup> The employee charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing accommodation requests is:

Dr. Dallas Swafford  
Director of Student Disability Services  
Office of Student Affairs  
325-942-2047  
[dallas.swafford@angelo.edu](mailto:dallas.swafford@angelo.edu)  
Houston Harte University Center, Room 112

### Incomplete Grade Policy

It is policy that incomplete grades be reserved for student illness or personal misfortune. Please contact faculty if you have serious illness or a personal misfortune that would keep you from completing course work.

Documentation may be required. See ASU Operating Policy 10.11 [Grading Procedures](#)<sup>v</sup> for more information.

### Drop Policy

The last day to drop the course is determined by the [university calendar](#)<sup>vi</sup> (Thursday, 28 April, 5:00pm). Please come talk with me if you are considering dropping the course.

### Plagiarism

Plagiarism is a serious topic covered in ASU's [Academic Integrity policy](#)<sup>vii</sup> in the Student Handbook. Plagiarism is the action or practice of taking someone else's work, idea, etc., and passing it off as one's own. Plagiarism is literary theft.

In your lab report papers, it is unacceptable to copy word-for-word even when a source is cited. It is expected that you will summarize or paraphrase ideas giving appropriate credit to the source both in the body of your paper and

the reference list. Similarly, it is unacceptable for a student to use another student's written words and submit them for credit.

Papers are subject to be evaluated for originality. Resources to help you understand this policy better are available at the [ASU Writing Center](#).<sup>viii</sup>

### **Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Days**

A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. See ASU Operating Policy 10.19 [Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Day](#)<sup>ix</sup> for more information.

### **Title IX at Angelo State University**

Angelo State University is committed to providing and strengthening an educational, working, and living environment where students, faculty, staff, and visitors are free from sex discrimination of any kind. In accordance with Title VII, Title IX, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE), and other federal and state laws, the University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination and unwelcome behavior of a sexual nature. The term includes sexual harassment, nonconsensual sexual contact, nonconsensual sexual intercourse, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, stalking, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence or dating violence), sexual violence, and any other misconduct based on sex.

You are encouraged to report any incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Office of Title IX Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator, Michelle Miller, J.D. You may submit reports in the following manner:

Online: [Incident Reporting Form](#)<sup>x</sup>

Face to Face: Mayer Administration Building, Room 210

Phone: 325-942-2022

Email: [michelle.miller@angelo.edu](mailto:michelle.miller@angelo.edu)

Note, as a faculty member at Angelo State, I am a mandatory reporter and must report incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Title IX Coordinator. Should you wish to speak to someone in confidence about an issue, you may contact the University Counseling Center (325-942-2371), the 24-Hour Crisis Helpline (325-486-6345), or the University Health Clinic (325-942-2171).

For more information about resources related to sexual misconduct, Title IX, or Angelo State's policy please visit the [Title IX website](#).<sup>xi</sup>

### **Information About COVID-19**

Please refer to ASU's [COVID-19 \(Coronavirus\) Updates](#)<sup>xii</sup> web page for current information about campus guidelines and safety standards as they relate to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Weekly Discussion Topics - BIOLOGY 6181****Assigned reading**

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Jan. 20	1. Introduction to Course / Topics	
Jan. 27	2. Responsible Conduct of Research	p. 1-23
Feb. 3	3. Avoiding Research Misconduct	
Feb. 10	4. Permits and Reporting	p. 24-28
Feb. 17	5. Authorship and Publishing Results	p. 29-38
Feb. 24	6. Intellectual Property/Conflicts of Interest	p. 39-49
Mar. 3	7. Searching for Employment/Graduate Positions	
Mar. 10	8. Professional Correspondence/Curriculum Vitae	
Mar. 17	SPRING BREAK	
Mar. 24	9. Preparing for Interviews	
Mar. 31	10. Open week for outside research	
Apr. 7	11. Research grants/Writing proposals	
Apr. 14	12. Ethics in Publishing	
Apr. 21	13. Gender Equality	
Apr. 28	14. Sexual Harassment/Cyberbullying	
May 5	15. Professional Service/Responsibilities	

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<sup>i</sup> <https://www.angelo.edu/current-students/student-handbook/>

<sup>ii</sup> <https://www.angelo.edu/academics/catalog/>

<sup>iii</sup> <https://www.angelo.edu/live/files/27603-student-handbook-2020-21#page=97>

<sup>iv</sup> <https://www.angelo.edu/current-students/disability-services/>

<sup>v</sup> <https://angelo.policystat.com/policy/10659448/latest/>

<sup>vi</sup> [http://www.angelo.edu/services/registrar\\_office/academic\\_calendar.php](http://www.angelo.edu/services/registrar_office/academic_calendar.php)

<sup>vii</sup> <https://www.angelo.edu/live/files/27603-student-handbook-2020-21#page=96>

<sup>viii</sup> [https://www.angelo.edu/current-students/writing-center/academic\\_honesty.php](https://www.angelo.edu/current-students/writing-center/academic_honesty.php)

<sup>ix</sup> <https://angelo.policystat.com/policy/10659368/latest/>

<sup>x</sup> <https://www.angelo.edu/incident-form>

<sup>xi</sup> <https://www.angelo.edu/title-ix>

<sup>xii</sup> <https://www.angelo.edu/covid-19/>