**Course Description and Syllabus**

**Course Information**

BMS 630 Journal Club

Course description: Reading, critiquing, and discussion of primary literature related to a biological question.

Number of credit hours: 2

Prerequisites (previous courses, knowledge, and skills): none

General Education requirements satisfied (if applicable): none

**Faculty Information**

Name: GSBSE Faculty

Phone, fax numbers: varies

E-mail address: varies

**Instructional Materials and Methods**

Textbook title(s) and other required course materials: varies

List of references and reserve materials: varies

**Student Learning Outcomes**

Course Goals: Learn to read and critique scientific journal articles

Instructional Objectives:

* Students will critically read scientific journal articles
* Students write critiques of scientific journal articles
* Students verbally critique scientific journal articles

Student Learning Outcomes: Given a particular article, students will be able to write a valid critique and discuss in class the hypothesis, experimental models and design, data interpretation and conclusions.

**Grading and Course Expectations**

Your grading criteria: Grading is a 50% on written assignments and 50% class participation.

Grading Scale:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 93-100% | A |
| 90-92% | A- |
| 87-89% | B+ |
| 83-86% | B |
| 80-82% | B- |
| 77-79% | C+ |
| 73-76% | C |
| 70-72% | C- |
| 67-69% | D+ |
| 63-66% | D |
| 60-62% | D- |
| 59% and below | F |

Tentative exam schedule:

Your Policies: varies by instructor

**Course Schedule:** varies by instructor

**Course Schedule Disclaimer (Disruption Clause):** In the event of an extended disruption of normal classroom activities, the format for this course may be modified to enable its completion within its programmed time frame. In that event, you will be provided an addendum to the syllabus that will supersede this version.

**Academic Honesty Statement:** Academic honesty is very important. It is dishonest to cheat on exams, to copy term papers, to submit papers written by another person, to fake experimental results, or to copy or reword parts of books or articles into your own papers without appropriately citing the source. Students committing or aiding in any of these violations may be given failing grades for an assignment or for an entire course, at the discretion of the instructor. In addition to any academic action taken by an instructor, these violations are also subject to action under the University of Maine Student Conduct Code. The maximum possible sanction under the student conduct code is dismissal from the University.

**Students with disabilities statement:** If you have a disability for which you may be requesting an accommodation, please contact Ann Smith, Director of Disabilities Services, 121 East Annex, 581-2319, as early as possible in the term.

**Sexual Discrimination Reporting**

The University of Maine is committed to making campus a safe place for students. Because of this commitment, if you tell a teacher about an experience of **sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, relationship abuse (dating violence and domestic violence), sexual misconduct or any form of gender discrimination** involving members of the campus, **your teacher is required to report** this information to the campus Office of Sexual Assault & Violence Prevention or the Office of Equal Opportunity.

**If you want to talk** **in confidence** to someone about an experience of sexual discrimination, please contact these resources:

For *confidential resources on campus*: **Counseling Center: 207-581-1392** or **Cutler Health Center: at 207-581-4000**.

For *confidential resources off campus*: **Rape Response Services:** 1-800-310-0000 or **Spruce Run**: 1-800-863-9909.

**Other resources:** The resources listed below can offer support but may have to report the incident to others who can help:

For *support services on campus*: **Office of Sexual Assault & Violence Prevention: 207-581-1406**, **Office of Community Standards: 207-581-1409**, **University of Maine Police: 207-581-4040 or 911**. Or see the OSAVP website for a complete list of services at <http://www.umaine.edu/osavp/>