UF | **College of Medicine**
Department of Pharmacology and Therapeutics
UNIVERSITY *of* **FLORIDA**

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There are no set office hours for this online course, to best accommodate asynchronous learning. If you have questions about the material or the course, please contact one of the above individuals using E-Learning.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This one-credit course is for basic and clinical scientists and others that wish to explore the use of pharmacological principles in medical research. High-profile scientific papers, both past and present, will be discussed in the context of how they alter both the area of interest as well as the overall scientific landscape.

The course will consist of recorded presentations that will be used to facilitate an online discussion regarding its contents. Presentations at the beginning of the semester will be provided by faculty/staff, while each student will be required to record their own paper discussion for the latter half. In addition, students will be required to complete problem sets in conjunction with each paper.

PREREQUISITES

This course requires at least 5 full-semester courses related to biology, chemistry and/or physics.

LEARNING RESOURCES

1. All relevant papers and presentation slides will be provided on E-Learning.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Successful completion of this course will prepare students to critically analyze pharmacology literature and discuss it amongst their peers. These students will be able to:

1. Gain a basic understanding of scientific topics for which they have limited background knowledge in order to comprehend the paper at hand.

2. Analyze scientific data and draw conclusions from them.

3. Demonstrate the ability to critically discuss scientific papers and their impact.

GRADING SCALE

A numerical grade will be given at the end of the course and will be scored as follows, per University of Florida standards (https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx):

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-
<60% = E

FINAL GRADE CALCULATION

Your final grade will be calculated as below:
      30% Problem Sets
      40% Online Discussion
      30% Paper Presentation

1. **Problem Sets: 30%**

   a. Each paper discussion will have a corresponding problem set.
   b. Problem sets may require students to demonstrate an understanding
   basic scientific knowledge of the paper contents or interpretations of data figures.
   c. They are open book.
   d. Each problem set has its own due date, which is available in E-Learning.
   e. Points will be spread evenly over all questions for the entire semester.

2. **Online Discussion: 40%**

   a. The presenter for each paper will create a small number (3-4) of discussion points and include them in the presentation.
   b. Each student will be expected to provide input into those discussions.
   c. Students must comment on and/or follow-up on the other posts in the discussion.
   d. Grading will be based on the rubric provided in E-Learning.
   e. Points will be spread evenly across all presentations.

3. **Paper Presentation: 30%**

   a. Each student will be required to choose a paper from a list of curated literature.
   b. The student must tell the course director which paper they have chosen prior to the specified date. Papers will be assigned on a first come, first served basis.
   c. Students must read and understand that paper.
   d. Students then will record a presentation in the previously demonstrated manner.
   e. Grading will be based on the rubric provided in E-Learning.

MAKE-UP AND LATE POLICY

All assignments may be completed late up until final grades are posted. A penalty of 50% will be applied to

each late assignment unless due to an excused absence, as defined by UF policy
https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/. In the event of an excused absence,
the student must work with the instructor to turn in work as soon as feasible.

Problem sets and discussion will not occur for student presentations that are turned in past the deadline (i.e.
other students will not be required to respond to late work submitted by their classmates).

ACADEMIC HONESTY

Please review the complete policy of the University of Florida regarding academic dishonesty, found in the
online student handbook at: http://graduateschool.ufl.edu/media/graduate-school/pdf-files/handbook.pdf.
Students are expected to abide by the University of Florida Academic Honesty Guidelines and to adhere to the
following pledge: We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our
peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity. 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."

ACCESSIBILITY

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic
accommodations should connect with the disability Resource Center by visiting
https://disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started/. It is important for students to share their accommodation letter
with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

IMPORTANT NOTICE ABOUT PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism is not tolerated at the University of Florida. The University of Florida has an honor code that defines
plagiarism as follows: Section 3a: Plagiarism. A student shall not represent as the student's own work all or
any portion of the work of another. Plagiarism includes but is not limited to:

1. Quoting oral or written materials including but not limited to those found on the internet, whether published
or unpublished, without proper attribution.
2. Submitting a document or assignment which in whole or in part is identical or substantially identical to a
document or assignment not authored by the student.

Please note that intent is not an element of this kind of violation so it is important to take great care to complete
the written assignments in your own words. The first incidence of plagiarism, which will be reported to the
University, may be punishable by a maximum penalty of a "0" grade for the assignment. Subsequently, a
second academic honesty infraction can result in expulsion from the University.

For a complete description of the UF Honor Code and procedures, please visit:
https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/.

For a good discussion about plagiarism and how to properly cite your sources, please visit:
http://mediasite.video.ufl.edu/Mediasite/Play/adaa44500eaf460a84f238e6b9a558f9 .

COURSE OUTLINE

Paper	Problem Sets	Presenter/ Due Dates

Paper 1		**Faculty/Staff** **Discussion Due Date**
	Paper 1	**Due Date**
	Paper Choices Due	**Due Date**
Paper 2		**Faculty/Staff** **Discussion Due Date**
	Paper 2	**Due Date**
Paper 3		**Faculty/Staff** **Discussion Due Date**
	Paper 3	**Due Date**
Paper 4		**Student #1** Upload Due Date **Discussion Due Date**
	Paper 4	**Due Date**
Paper 5		**Student #2** Upload Due Date **Discussion Due Date**
	Paper 5	**Due Date**
Paper 6		**Student #3** Upload Due Date **Discussion Due Date**
	Paper 6	**Due Date**

COURSE EVALUATION

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from

GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/.