

BRR 407: Seminar Course Syllabus

Oregon State University, BioResource Research Interdisciplinary Sciences (BRR)
Spring term, 1 credit
M, 50 minute sessions
Prerequisite: None

Instructor Contact: Wanda Crannell, (541) 737-2999
137 Strand Agricultural Hall
E-Mail: wanda.crannell@oregonstate.edu
Appointments made in advance; generally available M-F between 8:30 and 2:30.

BRR Director Contact: Kate Field (541) 737-1837
432 Nash Hall
E-Mail: Kate.Field@oregonstate.edu

For BRR students, to encourage excellence in public speaking. Exposes students to a variety of current seminar topics and provides them with the opportunity to evaluate components of good public seminars. Students receive a grade only after completing a public seminar on their own research (final research seminar). Spring term.

Course Objectives:

To learn, practice, and critique effective scientific seminar skills. Students develop presentation skills that will be essential during their entire professional careers. These skills will improve as students respond to critical feedback, and seek to make scientific information understandable to scientists, peers, and the general public.

Learning Outcomes:

Students will be able to:

- Communicate science in a 30-40 minute oral scientific presentation
- Understand and critique scientific presentations

Assessment/evaluation of student performance:

You will receive a letter grade following your final research seminar.

Criteria:

Your practice and final seminars will be judged based on the following criteria:

- General Aspects of Oral Presentation: Presented at level that is appropriate to the audience; clear and informative visual aids (simple, sufficient time); evident that presenter has practiced.
- Introduction: Overview of your problem area provided; unfamiliar terms introduced; appropriate literature abstracted and presented clearly; research hypothesis of the study identified.
- Methods: Brief overview of the equipment and materials used, and how obtained; brief overview of the experimental design used and any other parts of the methods employed; materials and/or equipment described; procedures followed to conduct the experiment presented
- Results: Anticipated and actual results reported; statistics clearly presented.
- Discussion: Implications if the hypothesis is supported clearly stated; implications if the hypothesis is not supported clearly stated; limitations of your study discussed; future research addressed
- Questions: Demonstrated knowledge of the material; poised and confident, but no bluffing; answered the question(s) asked (asked for clarification or restatement of the question)

Schedule:

<u>Week</u>	<u>Topic and/or activity</u>
1	Go over course requirements and finalize presentation schedule
2	Student presentation
3	Student presentation
4	Student presentation
5	Student presentation
6	Student presentation
7	Student presentation
8	Student presentation
9	Student presentation
10	Student presentation

Students with Disabilities: Accommodations are collaborative efforts between students, faculty and Disability Access Services (DAS). Students with accommodations approved through DAS are responsible for contacting the faculty member in charge of the course prior to or during the first week of the term to discuss accommodations. Students who believe they are eligible for accommodations but who have not yet obtained approval through DAS should contact DAS immediately at 737-4098.

Rules on Civility and Honesty:

The BioResource Research Interdisciplinary Program follows the university rules on civility and honesty.

Cheating or plagiarism by students is subject to the disciplinary process outlined in the Student Conduct Regulations. Students are expected to be honest and ethical in their academic work. Academic dishonesty is defined as an intentional act of deception in one of the following areas:

- * cheating- use or attempted use of unauthorized materials, information or study aids
- * fabrication- falsification or invention of any information
- * assisting- helping another commit an act of academic dishonesty
- * tampering- altering or interfering with evaluation instruments and documents
- * plagiarism- representing the words or ideas of another person as one's own

Behaviors disruptive to the learning environment will not be tolerated and will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for disciplinary action.

“The goal of Oregon State University is to provide students with the knowledge, skill and wisdom they need to contribute to society. Our rules are formulated to guarantee each student's freedom to learn and to protect the fundamental rights of others. People must treat each other with dignity and respect in order for scholarship to thrive. Behaviors that are disruptive to teaching and learning will not be tolerated, and will be referred to the Student Conduct Program for disciplinary action. Behaviors that create a hostile, offensive or intimidating environment based on gender, race, ethnicity, color, religion, age, disability, marital status or sexual orientation will be referred to the Affirmative Action Office.”

Link to Statement of Expectations for Student Conduct, i.e., cheating policies:

<http://oregonstate.edu/admin/stucon/achon.htm>