Biology 610: Professional Development in the Life Sciences  
Fall 2021

Course Meeting Time: Wednesdays 3:00 – 4:20 pm  
Location: 275 Onyx Bridge

Instructor Information (in order of appearance)  
Nadia Singh (nsingh@uoregon.edu)  
Matt Barber (mfbarber@uoregon.edu)  
Jeff Diez (jdiez@uoregon.edu)  
Bill Cresko (wcresko@uoregon.edu)  
Peter Ralph (plr@uoregon.edu)  
Andrew Kern (adkern@uoregon.edu)

Course description: This course is aimed at providing core competencies for graduate students in areas critical to professional development in science.

Grading: This course is designated as Pass/No Pass

Learning Objectives:
- How to effectively read a scientific paper
- Conceptual framework for writing a scientific paper
- How to design and present a poster
- Mentoring skills and strategies
- How to give a talk
- Inclusive teaching practices
- How to network and build community

Class Schedule

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<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic(s)</th>
<th>Instructor</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>9/29</td>
<td>Reading a scientific paper</td>
<td>Singh</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>10/6</td>
<td>Writing a scientific paper</td>
<td>Barber</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>10/13</td>
<td>Mentoring</td>
<td>Diez</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>10/20</td>
<td>Giving a talk</td>
<td>Cresko</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>10/27</td>
<td>Teaching</td>
<td>Barber</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>11/3</td>
<td>Poster design and presentation</td>
<td>Barber</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>11/10</td>
<td>Practice talks I</td>
<td>Barber</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>11/17</td>
<td>Practice talks II</td>
<td>Ralph</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>11/24</td>
<td>Thanksgiving holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>12/1</td>
<td>Networking and community building</td>
<td>Kern</td>
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Communication: All of our communication to you outside of class will take place via email. We will use the email registered to you by the University of Oregon. You may email us with questions or comments. Please send messages from your University of Oregon account and
include “BI610” in the subject line. Your email correspondences are an extension of your class participation, so please maintain a professional tone. We will generally respond to email messages within 1-3 days.

**ClassCourtesy:** Please arrive in class on time. Late arrivals distract the instructor and the other students. Please turn off cell phones during the class meeting times. Use your laptop only for class activities. Do not leave class early unless you have cleared it with the instructor in advance. Ask questions if you did not hear or understand something.

Classroom courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with differences of race, culture, religion, politics, sexual orientation, gender, gender variance, and nationalities. Class rosters are provided to the instructor with the students' legal names. We will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun. Please advise us of this preference early in the quarter (or before) so that we may address you properly.

Our classroom is a learning environment, and as such should be a safe, inclusive and respectful place. Being respectful also includes using preferred pronouns for your classmates. Disrespecting fellow students as well as combative approaches, tones and/or actions are not acceptable. Please make us aware if there are classroom dynamics that impede your (or someone else's) full engagement.

**Academic Integrity:** All students will be expected to adhere to the University's guidelines on academic integrity as outlined in the Student Conduct Code: [https://policies.uoregon.edu/vol-3-administration-student-affairs/ch-1-conduct/student-conduct-code](https://policies.uoregon.edu/vol-3-administration-student-affairs/ch-1-conduct/student-conduct-code). As detailed in the policy, academic misconduct means the violation of university policy involving academic integrity. This includes cheating (“any act of deception by which a student misrepresents or misleadingly demonstrates that the student has mastered information on an academic exercise that the student has not mastered”), and plagiarism (“using the ideas or writings of another as one's own.”) The instructors have a zero tolerance policy for academic dishonesty. All persons involved in academic dishonesty will be disciplined in accordance with University regulations and procedures.

**Students with Disabilities:** The instructors believe strongly in creating inclusive learning environments. Please notify us if there are aspects of the instruction or design of this course that result in disability-related barriers to your participation. You are also encouraged to contact the Accessible Education Center in 164 Oregon Hall at 541-346-1155 or [uoaec@uoregon.edu](mailto:uoaec@uoregon.edu).

**Discrimination and Harassment**

**Prohibited Discrimination and Harassment Reporting**
Any student who has experienced sexual assault, relationship violence, sex or gender-based bullying, stalking, and/or sexual harassment may seek resources and help at [safe.uoregon.edu](http://safe.uoregon.edu). To get help by phone, a student can also call either the UO’s 24-hour hotline at 541-346-7244 [SAFE], or the non-confidential Title IX Coordinator at 541-346-8136. From the SAFE website, students may also connect to Callisto, a confidential, third-party reporting site that is not a part of the university.
Students experiencing any other form of prohibited discrimination or harassment can contact the non-confidential AAEO office at 541-346-3123 or the Dean of Students Office at 541-346-3216 for help. As UO policy has different reporting requirements based on the nature of the reported harassment or discrimination, additional information about reporting requirements for discrimination or harassment unrelated to sexual assault, relationship violence, sex or gender based bullying, stalking, and/or sexual harassment is available at [Discrimination & Harassment](#).

Specific details about confidentiality of information and reporting obligations of employees can be found at [titleix.uoregon.edu](http://titleix.uoregon.edu).

**Reporting**

The instructors of this class are Student Directed Employees. As such, **if you disclose to one of us, we will respond to you with respect and kindness. We will listen to you, and will be sensitive to your needs and desires. We will not judge you. We will support you.** As part of that support, we will direct students who disclose sexual harassment or sexual violence to resources that can help. **We will only report the information shared to the university administration when you as the student requests that the information be reported** (unless someone is in imminent risk of serious harm or is a minor). Please note the difference between 'privacy' and 'confidentiality.' As a Student Directed Employees we can offer privacy because we are not required to report certain information to the university. However, we cannot be bound by confidentiality in the same way that a counselor or attorney is. Confidential resources such as these means that information shared is protected by federal and state laws. Any information that we as student-directed employees receive may still be accessed by university or court proceedings. This means, for example, that we could still be called as a witness or required to turn over any related documents or notes that I keep. **Please note also that we are required to report all other forms of prohibited discrimination or harassment to the university administration.**

**Mandatory Reporting of Child Abuse**

UO employees, including faculty, staff, and GEs, are mandatory reporters of child abuse. This statement is to advise you that your disclosure of information about child abuse to the instructor may trigger my duty to report that information to the designated authorities. Please refer to the following links for detailed information about mandatory reporting: [Mandatory Reporting of Child Abuse and Neglect](#).