Biochemistry Colloquium

Chem 688

Primary Instructor: Kelly Drew, 474-7190, kdrew@alaska.edu
Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry
Murie 218

Office Hours: please contact instructor via email or phone

Meeting Time: Wednesday, 11:45 pm – 12:45 pm, REIC 203; 12:30-1:30, Murie 230

Text: reading material distributed during course

Course Description:
This 1 credit course provides a set of practical skills to succeed as a professional scientist in the increasingly competitive environment in higher education, academia, or private industry. The colloquium will focus on individual development plans, the NIH biosketch and grantsmanship as pertinent to graduate students. Necessary reading material will be distributed during the course for reference and distributed on a timely basis. Graduate students will develop an individual development plan, an NIH biosketch and a research proposal related to their thesis research.

Course Goals:
- Understand the importance of SMART goals and a development plan
- Develop a competitive biosketch
- Prepare an effective research proposal

Learning Outcomes: Spring 2015
- Prepare a research proposal and how to communicate the significance, innovation, approach and feasibility of the proposed work.
- Produce a individual development plan with SMART goals and due dates
- Prepare an NIH biosketch and develop a vision for growing your biosketch

Instructional Methods:
The course is composed of group discussions (approx. 50%), and individual writing assignments. Group discussions are graded from attendance and participation. Participation includes voicing opinions and making revisions in response to group feedback. Writing assignments (approx 50%) are graded on a nominal scale of 0 or 1. The score is 1 if the writing assignment is available as scheduled for discussion and 0 if it is not available for discussion. This course is writing intensive and culminates in a research proposal.

Grading:
Students will be evaluated on the basis of their participation. Grades are A (90-100%), B (80-90%), C (70-80%), D (60-70%), F (<60%)
Course Policies:

Attendance: Graduate student attendance is expected. Undergraduate student attendance is highly encouraged. Active student participation is expected and will account largely for the pass/fail grade.

Presentations: Students will receive adequate preparation time for all assignments. Content and organization of topics are the primary concern, however presentation and discussion are also subject to scoring procedure.

Ethical Considerations:
The Chemistry Department’s policy of cheating is as follows: “any student caught cheating will be assigned a course grade of F. The student’s academic advisor will be notified of this failing grade and the student will not be allowed to drop the course”.

Plagiarism Policy:
Plagiarism is defined as the use of “other” intellectual property without proper reference to the original author. Intellectual property includes all electronic, spoken or print media thus any information taken of the web is included under this statement. Students are expected to cite all sources used in oral and written presentations. Cases of plagiarism will be taken seriously with a grade 0 for the particular assignment. Severe cases may be referred to the Department Chair or Dean or class failing considered.

Services –Support, Disabilities:
Support services will be provided by the University of Alaska Library system, online resources and the instructor. Additional services are available through Student Support Services (http://www.uaf.edu/sssp/) at UAF. We will work with the Office of Disabilities Services (203 WHIT, 474-7043) to provide accommodations for students with disabilities.

Course materials
Grant writing book (posted on Blackboard)

Link to prepare an individual development plan (with SMART goals)
http://myidp.sciencecareers.org/

Link to prepare an NIH biosketch