Biochemistry 530

Seminar course – Requirement for Graduation (all students)

1) 530 seminars
   participation and attendance (mandatory, in-person)
   25 minute talk, 5 minute questions
   Speakers should arrive at 11:55 to hook-up hardware, ensure everything works.
   You must evaluate each talk (form-based; turn in at the end of each 530 session).

   Term 1: 3rd year PhD students (compete for Zbarsky award), 2nd year students (no talks by 4th year students)

   Term 2: remaining 2nd year students, 1st year students

2) For PhD students, a seminar based on your thesis upon the point of graduation.
   40-45 minutes
   part of the BMB seminar series (Monday 3 pm slot).
   arranged once defense date chosen
   select date with your supervisor then tell Doris (she will arrange the room and notice).

3) BMB seminar series
   Attendance to seminars (not just Monday) is mandatory for all students
Course evaluation - 1

1. First and Second Year seminars 65%
   • Primarily based on presentation quality (as opposed to the science).

2. Evaluation of BIOC 530 and BMB seminar speakers 35%
   • For BIOC 530, fill out evaluation form and hand it in at the end of each session.
   • Put your name on it (ensures you are credited for your attendance). 15%
   • Provide constructive critique only.
   • Comments collated by grad secretary and passed onto speaker in anonymous fashion.
   • Questions, including one of each seminar speaker the week following your 530 seminar. 10%

COVID-19 accommodations

This is an in-person course.

If you are exhibiting COVID-like symptoms, do not attend seminars.

For 2021-22, you will be able to miss one class each semester and still score 100% for participate (peer-evaluation, questions). If you will miss more due to pandemic-related issues, please contact Doris and myself.
Course evaluation - 2

1. First and Second Year seminars  
   - Primarily based on presentation quality (as opposed to the science).

2. Evaluation of BIOC 530 and BMB seminar speakers  

   • For BIOC 530, evaluation of your peers and hand it in at the end of each session.  
   • Questions at the end of each seminar

   10%

   • For BMB seminars, provide your name, year of study, date and seminar title (presenter) at the top of the page.

   • For any eight speakers (four in each term), write a single, double-spaced paragraph of up to 250 words (±20).

   • Three of the four speakers each term much be from the BMBDG seminar series; a fourth may be from another series (e.g., the Gardiner)

   • Focus on the scientific content of the seminar, not the style of the speaker.

   • In 2-3 sentences identify the problem the speaker is addressing and summarize the key message(s) or conclusion(s) that the speaker delivered.

   • In 1-2 sentences, summarize the new information that you learned from the seminar.

   • Send to Grad secretary (Doris)
Useful pointers on preparing PowerPoint presentations

• uniformity - font type and size, colours throughout presentation

• amount of information
  • don’t crowd, but nice for it be enough if somebody’s attention wanders

• balance between text and figures

• tailor figures
  • figures from articles often have extraneous information that detract from your message and can be low resolution
  • BioRender – useful for making figures

More information at: Pimp your PowerPoint
http://classic.the-scientist.com/?articles.view/articleNo/28818/

Useful pointers on amount of information to have on slide, effective colours, etc.
Zbarsky Award

Best 3rd year BIOC 530 seminar as judged by you!
Prof. Sid Zbarsky - first member of Dep’t of Biochemistry (1950).
Honorarium courtesy of Zbarsky family (and department reception)
Only students who have attended all seminars (from evaluation sheets) will have a valid vote.

Recent winners:

20-21 Cindy Lam (Sadowski) 19-20 Jacob Wardman (Withers)
18-19 Zhiyu (Katherine) Zhao (Duong) 17-18 Dorothy Majewski (Strynadka)
16-17 Chloe Gerak (McIntosh) 15-16 Jayesh Kulkarni (Cullis)