

# IBMS 6097

## Research

AY 2017-2018

---

**COURSE DIRECTOR:** Keith Krolick, Ph.D.  
**OFFICE HOURS:** By appointment; Office 423D  
**EMAIL:** KROLICK@uthscsa.edu  
**TELEPHONE:** 567-3968

---

**READ THIS DOCUMENT CAREFULLY - YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ITS CONTENTS.**

### COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

The IBMS 6097 course requires independent, original student research under the direction of a faculty dissertation mentor. For students in the Infection, Inflammation & Immunity (III) discipline, they should enroll in the research **course section IBMS 6097-5III**. Enrolling in IBMS 6097 is required each and every semester beginning in the Spring semester of the student's Year 1 in the IBMS Graduate Program until graduation.

In light of the diverse and evolving objectives of various research projects pursued by each individual graduate student, no specific details for accomplishing the expectations of this course can be delineated. However, the following lists some of the broad objectives.

By the end of each semester, each student should demonstrate the following:

- **Scientific Advances.** In general, each student is to perform investigations that result in scientific advances in the student's chosen field of interest. The ultimate goals are 1) to prepare and defend a written dissertation that details the findings of the student's investigation, and 2) to publish significant findings in peer-reviewed journals.
- **Novelty and Scholarship.** Under the guidance of the student's dissertation mentor, research will be performed that is novel, scholarly, and adheres to all safety and ethical guidelines mandated by the UT Health San Antonio and any associated federal and state regulatory and funding agencies.
- **Research Proposal.** In consultation with a student's dissertation mentor, each student will write a dissertation research proposal that is to be approved by the student's official Dissertation Supervising Committee. Writing an acceptable research proposal will require that a student has a thorough in-depth knowledge and understanding of the scientific literature, including published findings that are directly and indirectly related to the research project. It is expected that the research proposal will be submitted via the IMPACT website by the end of the student's **Year 3 Fall semester**.
- **Research Committee Meetings.** Each student must meet with his/her Dissertation Supervising Committee at least once each semester to present and discuss research progress. Additional meetings may be required as determined by the student's Discipline Executive Committee and/or the student's Supervising Professor. Consequences for not meeting with supervising committee are described under grading, below.
- **Expectations at meetings.** At research committee meetings, a student should provide each member of the committee with a written progress report that includes a statement of the aims of the research project/dissertation proposal, the progress that was made since the previous committee meeting toward satisfying the aims and an outline of future plans (this information can be provided either as a formal written report or in a printed Pdf conversion of the slides used during the student's presentation). During the meeting, the student should briefly summarize the project background, and recently published work that has an impact on the proposed experimental strategies and interpretations of the results that he/she has obtained. Data in the form of figures and tables summarizing recent progress is generally appropriate.

- **Committee Meeting Reports.** Members of the Dissertation Supervising Committee will record their evaluations of student progress using the appropriate reporting form. Students are responsible for ensuring that report forms are filed with the III Discipline Coordinator who will forward them to the IBMS Graduate Program. Students are allowed to make copies of the report.

## ATTENDANCE

In order to achieve the expected level of competency and progress, students must be fully engaged. Therefore, attendance and experimentation should be consistent with the student's Milestones Agreement and agreements stated in the Student-Mentor Compact.

## GRADING POLICIES

Each semester, a grade of Unsatisfactory (U) or Satisfactory (S) or Honors (H) is given for research/academic performance (IBMS 6097). Satisfactory research/academic progress, and the grade for IBMS 6097, reflects a student's adherence to the expectations of the IBMS Graduate Program, the III discipline, and the Student-Mentor Compact and Milestones Agreement. This includes satisfying programmatic requirements, filing required forms and documentation, and progressing through the program according to the expected timeline.

Each semester the student's Supervising Professor will recommend to the Discipline Director that an "H" or "S" or "U" be given for IBMS 6097. This determination is made in consultation with the student's Dissertation Supervising Committee via reports of committee meetings submitted each semester and based upon the student's overall performance in the laboratory including experimental progress, academic development, effort and, when appropriate, progress in writing the dissertation. Together with administrative requirements mentioned above, the final grade for IBMS 6097 will be determined by the Discipline Director.

**Failure to meet with the Dissertation Supervising Committee** during a particular semester will result in the posting of an Unsatisfactory (U) grade for IBMS 6097 (Research/Academic Progress). However, if a student can present acceptable justification to the Discipline Director for a delayed committee meeting, a grade of incomplete (I) may be posted until the meeting can be held. If the student does not rectify the situation by holding a Committee meeting within 30 days following the last day of the semester in which a meeting should have been held, the research grade shall be changed from incomplete to unsatisfactory (U), and the student will be placed on academic probation. A student who receives two "U"s in Research/Academic Progress may be considered for dismissal from the IBMS Graduate Program.

## REQUESTS FOR ACCOMODATIONS FOR DISABILITIES

In accordance with HOP policy 4.2.3, **Request for Accommodation Under the ADA and the ADA Amendments Act of 2008 (ADAAA)**, any student requesting accommodation must submit the appropriate request for accommodation under the American with Disabilities Act (ADA, form 100) to the appropriate Associate Dean. In addition, the Course Director should be notified once the paperwork is filed. Additional information may be obtained at <http://uthscsa.edu/eo/request.asp>.

## ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND PROFESSIONALISM

Any student who commits an act of academic dishonesty is subject to discipline as prescribed by the UT System Rules and Regulations of the Board of Regents. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, the submission of experimental data known to be false, and any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such an act. Additional information may be obtained at

<http://catalog.uthscsa.edu/generalinformation/institutionalpolices/studentconductanddisciplinepolicy/>

## TITLE IX AT UTHSCSA

### Title IX Defined:

Title of the Education Amendments of 1972 is a federal law that prohibits sex discrimination in education. It reads "no person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance."

### **University of Texas Health Science Center San Antonio's Commitment:**

University of Texas Health Science Center San Antonio (UTHSCSA) is committed to maintaining a learning environment that is free from discriminatory conduct based on gender. As required by Title IX, UTHSCSA does not discriminate on the basis of sex in its education programs and activities, and it encourages any student, faculty, or staff member who thinks that he or she has been subjected to sex discrimination, sexual harassment (including sexual violence) or sexual misconduct to immediately report the incident to the Title IX Director.

In an emergency, victims of sexual abuse should call 911. For non-emergencies, they may contact UPD at 210-567-2800. Additional information may be obtained at <http://students.uthscsa.edu/titleix/>

### **EMAIL POLICY**

Every student is issued a University e-mail address and account at the time of enrollment. As a matter of University Policy, communications between students and faculty that occur using the student's University e-mail address is considered official business. Therefore, **students are expected to check their university email inboxes on a regular basis** so that any announcements, instructions, or information regarding this course will be received in a timely way. Missed communications due to inadequate monitoring of incoming emails on the University's email server will never be a valid excuse for unsatisfactory academic progress.