Colloquium in Molecular Medicine
MMED 5019

FALL 2019

CLASS DAYS and TIME: Thursday 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM September 5, 2019 – December 12, 2019

CLASSROOM: TBA

COURSE FACULTY: Hai Rao, Ph.D., Course Director, (ALL MMED INSTRUCTORS)

OFFICE LOCATION and HOURS: 261.4 STRF, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

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TELEPHONE: 210-562-4149

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

This course is not a didactic course. Instead, it is an interactive discussion and presentation formatted course. Participation is the underlying theme of this course and all students will be graded on their overall participation as well as the quality of their writing and presentations. Grading will reflect the improvement shown by each student in each subsequent presentation. Students should address weaknesses indicated to them by the presiding faculty, and students.

Pre-requisites – none

Semester credit hours – 1.5 CREDIT HOURS

By the end of this course, each student should be able to:

- Critically read and comprehend the scientific literature
- Concisely present the data in scientific papers in a manner that conveys the significance of the findings
- Skilled in seminar preparation and presentation with an emphasis on critical evaluation of data, methods, Interpretations, and conclusions
- Critically evaluate the presentations of their colleagues.

COURSE ORGANIZATION

The main teaching modalities used in this course include:

Present and discuss research papers to the class
Write and evaluate reviews on research papers

Materials – Research papers of students' choosing.

Computer Access – If students require the use of a laptop computer for their presentations, please let the TA or me know well in advance. The presenting students with the help of the TA (if needed) are responsible for setting up the computer to the data projector in advance of the scheduled class

Reading Assignments –

Student Writings: Each student will read several papers according to the schedule and write a one-page summary of a paper they selected, twice per semester. First review is due by 10/3, 2nd is due by 12/12. Summary should include: the significance of the work, how they start this project (usually in the introduction and the first section of the results), key experiments, major conclusion, caveats, your thinking on this paper (good or bad, problems, future follow ups……).

Student Presentations: Each student will read several papers according to the schedule and prepare a comprehensive presentation which will be delivered to the presiding faculty member and classmates. The presentations should be formal presentations which discuss in depth (1) the background information required to understand the paper; (2) the main aim of the paper; (3) the rationale behind the proposed studies; (4) the methods in enough detail to allow all students to understand the techniques used; (5) the data and results presented in each figure of the paper including a critical evaluation of the experiments and results; (6) the conclusions of the paper and significance of the findings. The instructors will assign the grade for each presenter and will note the participation of the other students. The TA's will also attend the presentations and will be available to aid students in the preparation of their presentations. TA's will be responsible for obtaining the papers from the faculty assignees, copying the papers, and distributing the papers to the class members at least one week before the date of the presentation.

Each presentation will be 30-40 minutes (not including comments or questions from attendees this will add time to your presentation). In order to ensure that your presentation does not excessively exceed the time limit, you must carefully prepare your slides, practice your talk, and speak concisely. Each presentation must include an in depth discussion of the points listed above.

Students not presenting: All members of the class must read the assigned papers prior to each class in order to participate intelligently during the presentations. During each presentation, all students are expected to ask questions or make helpful comments relevant to the science of the assigned paper. At the end of each presentation, the presiding faculty member, TA's, and students will critically evaluate each presenter and offer praise and/or suggestions for future improvement. Each student will be expected to provide constructive criticism aimed at improving the presenter's skills. A significant portion of your grade will be based on the presiding faculty's judgment of how well you participated in the discussions. This would include critically questioning the science, discussing alternate interpretations and significance, and contributing your thoughts concerning improving the presentations.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance at scheduled classes and examinations is crucial to meeting course objectives. Therefore, regular attendance in class is expected of each student.

- Attendance is defined as being present within 15 minutes after the scheduled beginning of the class and until 15 minutes before the scheduled ending of the class.
- Excused absences may be granted by the Course Director in cases such as formal presentations at scientific meetings, illness, or personal emergency.
- Excused absences are considered on an individual basis and require electronic communication with the Course Director to request an excused absence. The e-mail request to the Course Director for consideration of an excused absence must provide details regarding the circumstances and specific dates.
- It is expected that students will provide *advanced notice* of absence for scheduled events.
- If a student has excessive unexcused absences in a given course, they will automatically receive a grade of *unsatisfactory* unless *makeup* has been approved by the Course Director.

TEXTBOOKS

Required: None

Recommended: N/A

GRADING POLICIES AND EXAMINATION PROCEDURES

There are no examinations. The assigned grade (A-F) for each student will be based on **(1)** the quality of your presentations with an emphasis on showing improvement in each subsequent presentation and **(2)** the quality and quantity of your writing and class participation. Your grade will be determined by a compilation of scores given to you by each participating faculty member and by the presiding faculty member if you are presenting. An overall grade will be assigned after evaluating all of your scores.

Grading System

A = 90-100% B = 80-89% C = 70-79% F = < 69%

REQUESTS FOR ACCOMODATIONS FOR DISABILITIES

In accordance with 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 his/her appropriate Associate Dean of their School and a copy to the ADA Coordinator. Additional information may be obtained at http://uthscsa.edu/eeo/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, taking an exam for another person, signing attendance sheets for another student, 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/generalacademicpolicies/academicdishonestypolicy/

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 “LiveMail” e-mail address and account at the time when the student first enrolls. As a standing University Policy, only the students' University “LiveMail” e-mail address shall be used for any electronic institutional communications of an official nature.

USE OF RECORDING DEVICES

Recording of any activities in this course by any means, e.g., video, audio, etc., is not permitted unless approved by the instructor or required for compliance with the American with Disabilities Act (ADA).

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

If students require the use of a laptop computer for their presentations, please let the TA or me know well in advance. The presenting students with the help of the TA (if needed) are responsible for setting up the computer to the data projector in advance of the scheduled class.

TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE
Colloquium and 5019
COLLOQUIUM IN MOLECULAR MEDICINE
Fall 2019

DATE	TOPIC	Assignment	location
September 5	Nucleus	Dave Sharp	
September 12	Epigenetics	Kexin Xu	
September 19	Transcription	Jason Liu	
September 26	DNA Repair	Paul Hasty	
October 3	Paper summary	Hai Rao	
October 10	Recombination	Sang Eun Lee	
October 17	Proteins	Maria Gaczynska	
October 24	Ubiquitin	Hai Rao	
November 31	Cell Cycle, Checkpoints, Senescence	P. Renee Yew	
November 7	Signal Transduction: G Proteins	Chun-Liang Chen	
November 14	mTOR signaling	Masahiro Morita	
November 21 – Thanksgiving	Aging	Andrew Pickering	
November 28	No Class		
December 5	Cancer Biology	Myron Ignatius	
December 12	Genome Editing	Katsumi Kitagawa	
December 12	Paper summary	Hai Rao	