Molecular Genetics-Genetic Engineering Advanced Seminar I (MBMG 505)

Semester 1, Academic year 2019

Nov 1-29, 2019. Room A107. (1 credit)

Objectives: This course is designed to:

1. teach skills which will help students learn how to give a scientific presentation that is related to their thesis research.
2. encourage the students to become familiar with current research in molecular genetics, genetic engineering and related disciplines.
3. teach students to be able to participate in scientific discussions and summarize the content of a seminar presentation.

Format:

1. Students will research topics of their own choosing (2-3 papers), with approval from their major-advisors, that are related to their thesis and present them to an audience for approximately 30-40 minutes. Then, they will answer questions from the floor for approximately 15-20 minutes.

2. Students should give the title of presentation with the signature of the advisor to the course coordinator, at least 3 weeks before the presentation date.

3. Students are required to **write an abstract (not more than 250 words)** and submit to the course coordinator 1 week before the presentation date.

4. After the presentation, every student will be asked question(s) related to the presentation.

5. Students who miss the deadline for each category will be subjected to a penalty.

Evaluation:

1. Presentation (80%):

Seminar content and scientific merit (40%):

Introduction:

- Defines background and importance of research.
- States objective, and is able to identify relevant questions.

Body:

- Presenter has a scientifically valid argument.
- Addresses audience at an appropriate level (rigorous, but generally understandable to a scientifically-minded group).
- Offers evidence of proof/disproof.
- Describes methodology.
- The talk is logical.

Conclusion:

- Summarizes major points of talk.
- Summarizes potential weaknesses (if any) in findings.
- Provides you with a “take-home” message.

Presentation techniques, slide/transparency quality, ability to use English (20%):

- Graphs/figures are clear, understandable and not distracting.
- The text is readable and clear.
- Appropriate referencing of data
- Speaks clearly and at an understandable pace.
- Maintains eye contact with audience.
- Well rehearsed (either extemporaneous or scripted presentation).
- Speaker uses body language appropriately.
- Speaker is dressed appropriately.
- Speaker is within time limits.

Answering questions (20%):

- Speaker is able to answer questions.

2. Performance throughout the course (20%)

-Writing abstract for the presentation (5%)

- Participation actively in the class (15%):
  - asking questions (minimum 5 questions) (15%),
  - punctuality, attending the class, etc.

Course coordinators: Asst. Prof. Kusol Pootanakit

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