

UNIVERSITY OF PUERTO RICO
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

PHYSIOLOGY DEPARTMENT

COURSE DESCRIPTION

COURSE TITLE: SEMINAR IN PHYSIOLOGY

COURSE CODE: FISA 8503

CREDIT HOURS: 1 CREDIT (18 HOURS)

COURSE DURATION: 18 WEEKS

NUMBER OF STUDENTS: MIN.: 1 MAX.: 18

COORDINATOR NAME: DR. CARLOS A. TORRES-RAMOS

COORDINATOR OFFICE HOURS: TO BE ARRANGED

COORDINATOR OFFICE: A-644

COURSE HOURS: TO BE ARRANGED

WHEN WILL BE OFFERED: _____ QUARTERLY X SEMESTER
_____ YEAR (1ST) _____ SUMMER

PREREQUISITE: NONE

JUSTIFICATION: The ability to share ideas to other scientists through oral presentations or seminars is one of the most important skills that a scientist must have. The goal of this course is to develop the skills to prepare and present a high quality scientific seminar in the area of physiology.

DESCRIPTION: The main objective of this course is to educate the students about the art of presenting a scientific seminar to other colleagues. During this course, students will choose a topic to present and they will prepare their respective presentations in such a way that it should be of high scientist interest. The seminar topic should be about the student's research project. First year students should consult the course coordinator before they choose their topic. Seminars are designed, prepared and presented by the students

following the advise from a faculty member. Each student should present at least one seminar per year during the first four years in the graduate program. In addition, students will have the opportunity to evaluate seminars given by their peers and at the same time they will receive feedback about their evaluations.

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND EXPECTED OUTCOMES:

- 1) Prepare a scientific seminar of approximately 45 minutes long based on the research performed by the student.
- 2) Present the seminar in a formal setting to an audience compose by students, faculty, and visiting scientists.
- 3) The student should be capable of answering questions directly related to the content of the seminar.
- 4) Evaluate seminars and offer criticism to seminars presented by other students, faculty, and visiting scientists.

Student proficiency in the course objectives will be determined by the faculty using an evaluation instrument described below.

TEACHING STRATEGIES:

METHODS:

- Conferences
- Group Discussions
- Assigned Readings

AUDIOVISUAL RESOURCES:

- PowerPoint* Presentations
- Blackboard

ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENT:

Attendance and punctuality

EVALUATION STRATEGIES:

Faculty from the Department of Physiology will evaluate the student's presentation using a scale of 1 (deficient) to 5 (excellent) will grade each student seminar immediately following the presentation. The course coordinator will collect the evaluation forms and will obtain an average of the evaluation. The evaluation areas will be:

1. Organization
2. Communication skills
3. Knowledge of the topic
4. Use of audiovisual technology
5. Ability to answer questions

GRADING SCALE:

Average (%)	Grade
100-88	A
87-78	B
77-70	C
69>	F

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

- 1) *The Craft of Scientific Presentations*, by Michael Alley. Springer-Verlag, New York, 2003
- 2) Ten Secrets to Giving a Good Scientific Talk
(http://www.cgd.ucar.edu/cms/agu/scientific_talk.html)
- 3) <http://www.kumc.edu/SAH/OTEd/jradel/effective.html>

REASONABLE ACCOMODATION STATEMENT:

Students with a health condition or situation that, according to the law, makes them eligible for reasonable accommodation have the right to submit a written application to the professor and the Dean of their Faculty, according to the procedure established in the document Submittal Process for Reasonable Accommodation of the Medical Sciences Campus. A free copy of this document may be obtained at the Office of the Dean for student Affairs, second floor of the School of Pharmacy building; phone 787-758-2525 ext. 5203. A copy may also be obtained at the Office of the Dean of each faculty, as well as in the MSC web page. The application does not exempt students from complying with the academic requirements pertaining to the programs of the Medical Sciences Campus.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

The University of Puerto Rico promotes the highest standards of academic and scientific integrity. Article 6.2 of the UPR Student Bylaws (Certification JS 13 2009–2010) states that "academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to: fraudulent actions, obtaining grades or academic degrees using false or fraudulent simulations, copying totally or partially academic work from another person, plagiarizing totally or partially the work of another person, copying totally or partially responses from another person to examination questions, making another person to take any test, oral or written examination on his/hers behalf, as well as assisting or facilitating any person to incur in the aforementioned conduct". Fraudulent conduct refers to "behavior with the intent to defraud, including but not limited to, malicious alteration or falsification of grades, records, identification cards or other official documents of the UPR or any other institution." Any of these actions shall be subject to disciplinary sanctions in accordance with the disciplinary procedure, as stated in the existing UPR Student Bylaws.

DISCLAIMER: The above statement is an English translation, prepared at the Deanship of Academic Affairs of the Medical Sciences Campus, of certain parts of Article 6.2 of the UPR Student Bylaws “Reglamento General de Estudiantes de la Universidad de Puerto Rico”, (Certificación JS 13 2009-2010). It is in no way intended to be a legal substitute for the original document, written in Spanish.