

VME6933: Seminar in Infectious Diseases & Immunology

I. Course information

Number: VME 6933

Class: 17654

Course Title: Seminar in Infectious Diseases & Immunology

Semester: Fall

Course credits: 1

Students: Graduate students from UF CVM or other UF academic units

II. General information

Course Instructors:

- Dr. Dan Brown
drbrown@ufl.edu
- Dr. Banikalyan Swain
swainb@ufl.edu

Office hours: By appointment. The preferred way to schedule is by email.

III. Course description and objectives

Description

- This course is a seminar series for UF graduate students and faculty to exchange information that can advance human and animal health.
- Speakers will include a mix of UF and other academic faculty as well as external scientists

Objectives

- To enhance students' exposure to a broad remit of disciplines and topics in the infectious disease and immunology space.
- To enhance students' critical thinking skills.
- To emphasize the importance of active listening and science engagement.

IV. Format and Location

This seminar series will follow a hybrid model wherein $\geq 50\%$ of the seminars will be in-person in VAB Lecture Hall B, and the remaining will be accessible via Zoom. Attendance via Zoom for in-person seminars will be possible for those quarantining or isolating due to contagious illness by advance notice only (preferably 24 hours). Students are expected to attend in person if they are feeling well and not contagious.

- Zoom Link: <https://ufl.zoom.us/j/98565539651>
- Meeting ID: 985 6553 9651
- Passcode: 728730

V. Course Materials

A published paper for each speaker will be circulated to students no later than one week prior to the scheduled seminar.

VI. Schedule

Departmental seminars will be held on Tuesdays, from 11:30-12:30 pm in Bldg. 1017 (Veterinary Academic Building), Lecture Hall B, unless otherwise indicated. A limited number of lectures will be delivered by Zoom.

Fall 2023 Departmental Seminar Assignments (seminar time is 11:30am-12:30pm)

The August 23, 2023, meeting will be an organizational meeting of enrolled students with the course instructors to review the syllabus. Scientific presentations will begin on August 29, 2023, with the sequence of topics to be determined by the speakers.

VII. Evaluation

Assignment	Grade %	Due Date
Paper summary and next steps statement	30	Monday at 5 PM, prior to the seminar
Direct participation	25	Must have occurred by
Attendance	45	Ongoing

- Paper summary and next steps statement
 - *After reading the assigned paper for each speaker, write the following (~½ page):*
 - *A summary of the paper (major question(s), approach(es) and conclusions);*
 - *Propose what you think the next experiment should be to follow up on the study's findings ("next steps"). Justify this experiment/provide a rationale. Clearly state the hypothesis that your proposed experiment will test.*
 - *Submit this write-up by 5 PM on the day before the scheduled seminar (i.e., Monday).*
 - *Feedback will be given on the summary and next steps statement on a weekly basis (by the following Friday at 5 PM) prior to the next scheduled Monday assignment so that weekly improvements to the summaries can be made and students can gain confidence in critical thinking and experimental design abilities.*
- Direct participation
 - *Probing questions must be asked to one seminar speaker during the series within the scheduled seminar time.*
- Attendance
 - *Weekly attendance will be taken and noted. You are allowed to miss up to two (2) of the seminars provided a stated reason is submitted to the course instructors in writing prior to the seminar.*
- Satisfactory (S) and Unsatisfactory (U) grades are given for this course.
 - *For this course, U is considered a failing grade.*
 - *For this course, S is equivalent to a score of ≥88%, a reasonable expectation at the graduate level in our department.*