BIOT 6101 Student Seminar Credit Hours: 1

Semester: Spring **Year:** 2026
Class Day/Time: TBD **Class Location:** TBA

Instructor of Record: Dr. Mitsuo Ikebe
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Office Hours: TBA

Course Description: The Student Seminar course is 1 hour course designed to help prepare students to present their final thesis presentation at the end of their Master's program in Biotechnology. To accomplish this, students are given the opportunity to present their **research work** once a semester in the same format that they will be required to give their thesis presentation. Students will take this course every semester (Fall and Spring).

Prerequisite: Must be enrolled or completed Critical Reading. **Co-requisite:** None
I (BIOT 5131)

Goals of Course:
Students will gain skills in presenting scientific research.

1. Organize the experimental results, background and experimental design and techniques for oral presentation.
2. Prepare a scientific presentation containing power point slides
3. Present findings of own research progress to class.
4. Demonstrate understanding of the performed own research.

Student Learning Outcomes (SLO or "course objectives"):

1. Students will demonstrate the ability to interpret and evaluate their findings.
2. Students will create a PowerPoint presentation to present the findings of their own research
3. Students will explain and discuss the importance of their own research in a presentation setting.

Subject-specific Skills:
Students will build on public speaking skills as well as preparing Power Point presentations for the scientific community.

Course Assessment/Methods of Evaluation:
Students will be evaluated on their ability to present their research project in a logical manner. Student must demonstrate mastery of the material presented by answering questions pertaining directly to the research described in their presentation. **Title, Summary and the reference of presentation (less than one page (double space)) should be submitted to Jorge Arellano by Friday of the week prior to the presentation. The summary should be written by your own words including your thoughts. Students are expected to prepare their power point presentation prior to the seminar to be ready for the questions and comments.**

Oral Presentation -- One presentation per semester. The presentation is max 20min + 10 min questions. (40%)
Attendance -- 15 weeks (40%) Sign-up sheet is provided in the class. Students will be considered absent if they arrive more than **15 minutes** after the start of class. Students taking **more than two absences may fail in the course.** Students are expected to attend both student seminar and faculty seminar each week.
Participation -- Students need to ask at least 5 question per semester (20%)

Linked Program Learning Outcomes:
The student learning outcomes listed above address the following Biotechnology Program PLOs:

- PLO1 - The student will demonstrate English communication skills in both oral and written forms.
- PLO5 - The student will explain the principles, mechanisms, and interrelatedness of both in vivo and in vitro biochemical, molecular biological, and genetic processes.

Textbook:
None

Course Content:
Reading materials vary by instructor and topic. Students will need to log on to the library website to research journals directly or indirectly related to their seminar.

Other Class Policies

Attendance:
Regular or punctual attendance is expected. Students will be considered absent if they arrive more than **15 minutes** after the start of class. If a student misses a class or lab, the student is responsible for obtaining any information distributed during those times. Make-ups are possible only under certain instances (labs cannot be made up). Arrangements for any make-ups and/or missed labs should be discussed directly with the instructor for that day's class.

Participation:
Participation is key to the success of student in this class, and the students are expected to ask questions to actively participate the class.

Academic Honesty:
Any student who commits an act of scholastic dishonesty is subject to discipline. Scholastic 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 examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.

Cheating
Dishonesty of any kind involving examinations, assignments, alteration of records, wrongful possession of examinations, and unpermitted submission of duplicate papers for multiple classes or unauthorized use of keys to examinations is considered cheating. Cheating includes but is not limited to:

- Using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class.
- Falsifying or inventing any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise.
- Helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism.

Plagiarism
Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Materials, even ideas, borrowed from others necessitate full and complete acknowledgment of the original authors. Offering the work of another as one's own is plagiarism and is unacceptable in the academic community. A lack of adequate recognition constitutes plagiarism, whether it utilizes a few sentences, whole paragraphs, articles, books, audio-visual materials, or even the writing of a fellow student. In addition, the presentation of material gathered, assembled or formatted by others as one's own is also plagiarism. Because the university takes such misconduct very seriously, the student is urged to carefully read university policies on Misconduct in Research and Other Scholarly Activity 05.00. Examples of plagiarism are:

- Submitting an assignment as if it were one's own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another.
- Submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source.
- Incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper without giving the author due credit.

Adding/Dropping:

The official deadline for adding and dropping courses is as published in the academic calendar (Registrar Withdrawal webpage). However, students are strongly encouraged to meet with their graduate advisor or the Program Coordinator prior to adding/dropping courses. Movement into and out of classes after the 4th class day requires approval of the Program Director. Each student is responsible for their own enrollment status with the university.

Disability Accommodations:
UT Tyler HSC abides by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act, which mandate reasonable accommodations be provided for students with documented disabilities. If you have a disability and may require some type of instructional and/or examination accommodations, please contact me early in the semester so that I can provide or facilitate provision of accommodations you may need. If you have not already done so, you will need to register with the Student Services Office (located on the main campus). You may call 903-566-7079 for more information.

Use of Artificial Intelligence:
UT Tyler is committed to exploring and using artificial intelligence (AI) tools as appropriate for the discipline and task undertaken. We encourage discussing AI tools' ethical, societal, philosophical, and disciplinary implications. All uses of AI should be acknowledged as this aligns with our commitment to honor and integrity, as noted in UT Tyler's Honor Code. Faculty and students must not use protected information, data, or copyrighted materials when using any AI tool. Additionally, users should be aware that AI tools rely on predictive models to generate content that may appear correct but is sometimes shown to be incomplete, inaccurate, taken without attribution from other sources, and/or biased. Consequently, an AI tool should not be considered a substitute for traditional approaches to research. You are ultimately responsible for the quality and content of the information you submit. Misusing AI tools that violate the guidelines specified for this course (see below) is considered a breach of academic integrity. The student will be subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in UT Tyler's Academic Integrity Policy.

For this course, **AI is not permitted in this course at all.** To best support your learning, you must complete all graded assignments by yourself to assist in your learning. Doing your own work, without human or artificial intelligence assistance, is best for your efforts in mastering course learning objectives. This exclusion of other resources to help complete assignments includes artificial intelligence (AI). Refrain from using AI tools to generate any course context (e.g., text, video, audio, images, code, etc.) for any assignment or classroom assignment.

Program:	Master of Science in Biotechnology
Degree:	MS
Department:	Cellular and Molecular Biology
School:	Medical Biological Sciences
Course:	**BIOT5101/6101 – Biotechnology Research Seminar I & II**

Area	Marketable Skill*
TECHNOLOGY SKILLS	**Graphics or photo imaging software -** GraphPad, Adobe, ImageJ
	Office suite software — Microsoft Office (Word, Excel)
	Presentation software — Microsoft PowerPoint
SKILLS	**Critical Thinking** — Using logic and reasoning to identify the strengths and weaknesses of alternative solutions, conclusions, or approaches to problems.
	Active Listening — Giving full attention to what other people are saying, taking time to understand the points being made, asking questions as appropriate, and not interrupting at inappropriate times.
ABILITIES	**Oral Comprehension** — The ability to listen to and understand information and ideas presented through spoken words and sentences.
	Inductive Reasoning — The ability to combine pieces of information to form general rules or conclusions (includes finding a relationship among seemingly unrelated events).
	Oral Expression — The ability to communicate information and ideas in speaking so others will understand.
WORK ACTIVITIES	**Analyzing Data or Information** — Identifying the underlying principles, reasons, or facts of information by breaking down information or data into separate parts.

*All marketable skills listed for this course and program were drawn from the Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities identified by the US Department of Labor and Statistics for "Biological Technicians" and "Molecular and Cellular Biologists" as published on O*Net Online (www.onetonline.org)