

GEN 491 - Undergraduate Seminar in Genetics
Fall, 2015

Instructor: Alan Myers
2110 Molecular Biology Bldg.
515-294-9548
ammyers@iastate.edu

Class Meetings: W, 3:10 - 4:00 pm; 1424 Molecular Biology Building

Office Hours: By appointment, arrange meeting times in person before or after class, or by email

Reading Assignments: Required reading assignments for each class period will be assigned using Blackboard. These will be research papers and grant proposals selected by the instructor.

Learning Objectives: The overall objective of GEN 491 is to provide students with experience and insights in professional practice of the genetic sciences. After completing the course students should have attained the following proficiencies.

1. Scientific literature: ability to query the public literature databases to find information on specific topics, to efficiently read and gain insight into the substance of such articles, and to catalog individualized research literature databases.
2. Communication: ability to efficiently transmit information to audiences at various levels including peers that are expert in genetic sciences, generally informed scientists in other fields, and lay audiences. Oral communication is emphasized.
3. Leadership and teamwork: ability to work in teams to investigate and communicate genetics research information.
4. Careers: understanding of the various career options available to BS-level geneticists and the long term development of such careers.
5. Grantsmanship: understanding of the funding structure for genetics research in the U.S. and how this translates into laboratory positions for students and professionals

Attendance Policy: Attendance is required.

Course Requirements and Expectations: Students will be required to work in groups to present information to the class. Each student will serve as a leader of the class discussion twice during the term. Participation in the in-class discussions is expected.

Examination and Grading Procedure: No exams are given in the course. Grading is based on class participation as determined by the instructor. Attendance will be considered as a factor in assigning the grade.

Disability Resource Policy: Iowa State University complies with the American with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. Any student with a documented disability that may require accommodations in order to have equal learning opportunity in this course should **contact the instructor within the first week of class**. Such students will need to provide documentation to the Disability Resources (DR) office, 1076 Student Services Building, phone number 294-7220. The student, DR office, and instructor will work together to develop fair accommodations.