

AGLY 490 SENIOR SEMINAR
Syllabus

Spring 2006

Instructor: Dr. Allen J. Dennis
Office: SCI 224
Telephone: 641-3396

Office Hours: W afternoon 1:30-2:30
Email: dennis@sc.edu

Lecture: Th, 6:00-7:15 PM in SBDG 107
Text: None, outside readings required

Credit: One Semester Hour

Course Description: Discussion and presentation of current topics in biology and geology by students, faculty, and visiting scientists. Emphasis is placed on effective oral communication and critical examination of scientific information and ideas. Students will discuss current papers in the fields of biology and geology as a prelude to weekly seminars given by faculty, visiting scientists, and USCA biology majors.

Course Objectives: Students will be introduced to current research in the fields of biology and geology through seminars in the Department of Biology and Geology Seminar Series.

Students will prepare for each week's seminar by reading appropriate literature recommended by the speaker and participating in a discussion of that week's topic. Each weekly discussion will be led by a team of two/three assigned students. After the Friday seminar each student will prepare a brief evaluation of the seminar. This exercise will focus a student's attention on what comprises a successful research talk.

BS students will prepare and give a 5-7 minute PowerPoint presentation on their own projects before the Spring Break. The presentation may cover the student's research topic and goals or be more complete and contain some data and analysis. The primary goal is to help the student prepare and become comfortable with his/her own research presentation.

Scheduling of 499 research presentations (April 7, 14, 21) will occur before the Spring Break.

Attendance Policy: Students should refer to the USCA Student Handbook regarding the number of absences permitted. In this regard, the instructor may impose a penalty for absences in excess of 25% of regularly scheduled class meetings (W and F) by assigning an "F" for the course. Absences, *excused or unexcused*, do not absolve the student from meeting class assignments.

Disability Statement: If you have a physical, psychological, and/or learning disability, which might affect your performance in class, please contact the Office of Disability Services, 126A B&E (803) 641-3609, as soon as possible. The Disability Services Office will determine appropriate accommodations based on medical documentation.

Methods of Presentation and Evaluation: This course is evaluated as Pass/Fail, as such students are required to participate in all class assignments and attend at least 70% of Department of Biology and Geology seminars.

WEDNESDAY CLASS SCHEDULE		
Date	Topic	Seminar
Jan 11	Intro	No Seminar
Jan 18	Proposal Preparation	No Seminar
Jan 24	Mims, Pridgen lead	
Feb 1	Joffrion-Starks, Z Wilson lead	
Feb 8	Murdaugh, Condon, Grantham lead	
Feb 15	Jones, C Wilson, Thomas	
Feb 22	Arthur, Cassetori	
Mar 1	Overview of 499's	No Seminar
Mar 8	No class – Spring Break	No Seminar
Mar 15	Hollingsworth, Prescott, Palacio	
Mar 22	Kritzas, Bolin, Mack	
Mar 29	Drake, Warren, Adriano	
Apr 5	End of term discussion	ABIO 499 Independent Research Talks
Apr 12		ABIO 499 Independent Research Talks
Apr 19		ABIO 499 Independent Research Talks

Date	Speaker	Title
Jan 27	Erik Svendsen , Arnold School of Public Health, Univ South Carolina	Midwinter's Night Dream: The Graniteville chlorine spill
Feb 3	Cynthia Goldsmith , Centers for Disease Control	The Role of Electron Microscopy in the Diagnosis of Emerging Infectious Diseases
Feb 10	Greg Lewis , Biology, Furman Univ.	Influences of urbanization on streams and rivers in the upper piedmont of South Carolina
Feb 17	Marc Frischer , Skidaway Institute of Oceanography	Molecular Approaches for In Situ Studies of Nitrate Utilization by Marine Bacteria
Feb 24	Lee Newman , Arnold School of Public Health, Univ South Carolina	Using Plant to Clean-up Industrial Solvents: From Genetics to Applications
Mar 3	Spring BREAK	No Seminar
Mar 10	SCAS Meeting, USC Columbia	No Seminar
Mar 17	Inna Sokolova , Biology, UNC - Charlotte	Surviving global warming in a polluted environment: Effects of cadmium and temperature on mitochondrial bioenergetics of marine mollusks
Mar 24	Dave Lincoln , Biology, Univ of South Carolina	Indirect Effects of Rising CO2 on Biodiversity
Mar 31	Chris Romanek , SREL, University of Georgia	The geomicrobiology of hot springs in Kamchatka and Nevada
Apr 7	USCA Biology majors	ABIO 499 Independent Research Talks
Apr 14	USCA Biology majors	ABIO 499 Independent Research Talks
Apr 21	USCA Biology majors	ABIO 499 Independent Research Talks