

Biology Seminar Course
BZ492GV/692HV
Fall 2006

Dr. Deborah Garrity Fall 2006

Schedule:

- Seminars take place on Tuesdays, 4 pm, in W112 approximately every other week. Attend all seven seminars and take notes.
- For new graduate students: On alternate Tuesdays for which a seminar is not scheduled, Drs Bush and Ghalambor will host "Introduction to Graduate School" discussion sessions on alternate Tuesdays for which a seminar is not scheduled. Discussions will include: How to succeed in science, Scientific ethics, Role models in science, and more.

At the end of the semester, each student will write a 3-page paper (single spacing, font size 12, just like in this block of text) about these seminars. In your paper list the seven seminars you attended and rank them. In doing so, identify the three best presentations given during the semester. With your list of the "Top Three" seminars, I would like an explanation of why you chose each one. You may find the *subject* of some seminars more interesting to you personally than other seminars, but for this class please judge each seminar objectively based on the **content** (do you think the science was good; were good scientific questions addressed), **format** (i.e., were the picture slides easily visible from anywhere in the room, were the data easy to read &/or interpret, did the figures fill the screen), **presentation style** (was it engaging), and **overall effectiveness** (was this the right talk for this audience). Did you come away with the feeling that you learned something, was it inspiring? In addition to your analysis of the top three presentations, I would like a brief critique of your least favorite seminar. Again, outline what criteria you applied in making this determination.

Note: the following type of motivation is not acceptable: "I liked speaker X because the presentation was closely related to my own research interests."

The notion is for you to think about the complete package and, ultimately, for you to define for yourself the most effective style that you would emulate in your own seminar.

Papers are due in my office (E328) on Dec. 9, 2005 or before. Include on your paper, your name, student ID#, office phone # and email. Papers will be returned to you with suggestions for correction (if any) before or on Dec 13. A final corrected paper (if needed) is due on or before Dec 16, 2005. Let me know if you have questions.

Absences: You are required to attend all 7 seminars, but if you have a conflict (e.g. for teaching) you can substitute another seminar on campus of your choice, which will be noted in your list of seminars attended and ranked relative to the others. However, you are encouraged to attend the Biology seminars when possible since that is what the focus of this course is.

Debbie Garrity
Deborah.garrity@colostate.edu, 491-2513, Office E328 Zoology

Fall 2006 seminar series

PRE-MIXER: 3:30 P.M. E112 ANAT/ZOOL BLDG SEMINAR:4:10 P.M. W118 ANAT/ZOOL BLDG

August 29: Kai Muller (host Mark Simmons)

Department of Biology, The Pennsylvania State University, Inst. Of Molecular Evol.Genetics, and the Huck Institutes of the Life Sciences

Title: Eat and be eaten: on the evolution of carnivorous (*Lentibulariaceae*) and crop plants (*Amaranthaceae*)

URL: http://www.nees.uni-bonn.de/mitarbeiter_homepages/mueller.htm

Topic/Area: plant molecular phylogenies and gene trees

September 5: Bruce McClure (host Pat Bedinger)

Biochemistry Department, University of Missouri

Title: An alternative model for S-RNase-based self-incompatibility

URL: <http://www.biochem.missouri.edu/bmclure.php>

Topic/Area: molecular basis of self-incompatibility in plants

September 19: June Medford (host Debbie Garrity)

Department of Biology, Colorado State University

Title: Development of a Plant Sentinel for terrorist agents and environmental pollutants using computationally designed receptors with synthetic and hybrid signal transduction.

URL: <http://rydberg.biology.colostate.edu/faculty/profile.php?name=Medford>

Topic/Area: Mechanisms of plant growth and OCM technology

October 3: Scott Collins (host Alan Knapp)

Department of Biology, University of New Mexico

Title: Abiotic pulses and vegetation dynamics in an arid land

URL: <http://biology.unm.edu/coll.htm>

Topic/Area: community ecol., plant-grazing interactions, climate change, biogeography.

October 17: Dave Stephens (host Druhba Naug)

Department of Ecology, Evolution and Behavior in University of Minnesota

Title: Why are animals so impulsive?

URL: <http://www.cbs.umn.edu/eeb/faculty/StephensDavid/>

Topic/Area: behavioral ecology, foraging ecology and decision making theory

Oct 31: Annette Gabaldon (host Debbie Garrity)

Department of Biology, Colorado State University, Pueblo.

Title: Thermal biology of the senescent rat

URL: <http://csm.colostate-pueblo.edu/biology/Gabaldon.html>

Topic/Area: physiology of aging

November 14: Mark Simmons (host Rien Pilon)

Department of Biology, Colorado State University, Fort Collins CO.

Title: Alignment, character sampling & character coding for molecular phylogenetic inference

URL: <http://csm.colostate-pueblo.edu/biology/Gabaldon.html>

Topic/Area: physiology of aging