

**Biology 621  
Graduate Core Seminar**

**Spring 2019  
R 5:30-7:00**

Instructor: Craig Plante  
Office: 104 GML  
Office Hours: T noon-2:00, F 11:00-noon, or by appt.

E-mail: [plantec@cofc.edu](mailto:plantec@cofc.edu)  
Phone: 843-953-9187

The learning outcomes of this seminar are to:

1. Facilitate your entry to the GPMB through discussions about program deadlines, conducting and communicating scientific research, finding funding, etc.
2. Gain an understanding of the ethical issues confronting (marine) scientists
3. Attempt to understand the "culture" and responsibilities of modern research and science
4. Develop and present a preliminary research proposal for your GPMB thesis research

The course will consist of participatory discussions, case studies, and student seminars. Also, a bit of lecture, and hopefully a guest speaker or two.

Text: *On Being a Scientist: A Guide to Responsible Conduct in Research*, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed., National Academy of Science, 2009.

Schedule:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>READINGS</u>
Jan 10	Introduction & Business	
Jan 17	Standards & Values in Science, Treatment of Data	1-11
Jan 24	Negligence, Misconduct Lab Safety, IRB/IACUC	12-28
Jan 31	Publication, Credit, Authorship, Science & Society	29-49
Feb 7	Writing Theses, Manuscripts	
Feb 14	Pre-proposal Seminars: _____	
Feb 21	Pre-proposal Seminars: _____	
Feb 28	Panel: The Oral Comprehensive Exam ( <b>Dr. Mike Janech</b> )	
Mar 7	Social Media and Science ( <b>Dr. David Shiffman</b> )	
*Mar 14	Poster Presentations Workshop ( <b>Dr. Allison Welch</b> )	
Mar 21	<b>Spring Break</b>	
Mar 28	Pre-proposal Seminars: _____	
Apr 4	Pre-proposal Seminars: _____	
Apr 11	Pre-proposal Seminars: _____	
Apr 18	Pre-proposal Seminars: _____	

\*Dates subject to change

**Grading:** Course grade will be determined by 1) attendance & participation in discussions (each absence after the first results in 1 pt. reduction on 4 pt. scale), 2) attendance at FJ seminars (each absence after one results in 0.5 pt reduction on 3 pt scale), and 3) Pre-proposal Seminars (based on 3 pt. scale: 3 = complete and clear presentation of project background and research plan, 2 = presentation can be followed but insufficient background knowledge, significant issues with clarity, thought process, etc., 1 = completed presentation but serious deficiencies, such that proposed work is not justified, won't work, was incomprehensible, 0 = no presentation). Final grade will be calculated on 10 pt. scale.

Grading Scale:

A: 9 +	B+: 8.5-8.9	B: 8.0-8.4
C+: 7.5-7.9	C: 7.0-7.4	F: 0-6.9 failing

## ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

1. **Center for Student Learning:** I encourage you to utilize the Center for Student Learning's (CSL) academic support services for assistance in study strategies, speaking & writing strategies, and course content. They offer tutoring, Supplemental Instruction, study strategy appointments, and workshops. Students of all abilities have become more successful using these programs throughout their academic career and the services are available to you at no additional cost. For more information regarding these services please visit the CSL website at <http://csl.cofc.edu> or call (843)953-5635.

2. **Center for Disability Services (<http://disabilityservices.cofc.edu/faculty/faqs.php>)**

The College will make reasonable accommodations for persons with documented disabilities. Students should apply for services at the Center for Disability Services/SNAP located on the first floor of the Lightsey Center, Suite 104. Students approved for accommodations are responsible for notifying me as soon as possible and for contacting me one week before accommodation is needed.

## ACADEMIC INTEGRITY STATEMENT

Lying, cheating, attempted cheating, and plagiarism are violations of our Honor Code that, when identified, are investigated. Each incident will be examined to determine the degree of deception involved.

Incidents where the instructor determines the student's actions are related more to a misunderstanding will be handled by the instructor. A written intervention designed to help prevent the student from repeating the error will be given to the student. The intervention, submitted by form and signed both by the instructor and the student, will be forwarded to the Dean of Students and placed in the student's file.

Cases of suspected academic dishonesty will be reported directly by the instructor and/or others having knowledge of the incident to the Dean of Students. A student found responsible by the Honor Board for academic dishonesty will receive a XXF in the course, indicating failure of the course due to academic dishonesty. This grade will appear on the student's transcript for two years after which the student may petition for

the XX to be expunged. The F is permanent. The student may also be placed on disciplinary probation, suspended (temporary removal) or expelled (permanent removal) from the College by the Honor Board.

Students should be aware that unauthorized collaboration--working together without permission-- is a form of cheating. Unless the instructor specifies that students can work together on an assignment, quiz and/or test, no collaboration during the completion of the assignment is permitted. Other forms of cheating include possessing or using an unauthorized study aid (which could include accessing information via a cell phone or computer), copying from others' exams, fabricating data, and giving unauthorized assistance. Research conducted and/or papers written for other classes cannot be used in whole or in part for any assignment in this class without obtaining prior permission from the instructor. Students can find the complete Honor Code and all related processes in the Student Handbook at <http://studentaffairs.cofc.edu/honor-system/studenthandbook/index.php>