

**Fall 2017 BIOL 4111 Seminar**  
**Class Syllabus and Course Explanation**



**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

General seminar (BIOL 4111) will provide the opportunity to students to attend a diversity of lectures from researchers from SHSU and other universities. This is a space where researchers can present results from their research, and the audience can have opportunity to meet scientists from other universities.

**CREDIT HOURS: 1**

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

The primary objective of this course is to provide expose students to specialized terminology, experimental methods, and results from new research projects in Biological Sciences. Upon successful completion of the course you will have:

- Understanding of the scope of Biological Research; from this you will learn how biologists approach and address research questions and conduct scientific studies.
- Gained insight into potential careers in the biological sciences.
- Developed the skills to listen and gain insights from a professional presentation.
- Learned how to evaluate scientific works and papers, and peer review presentation.
- Learned how to deliver a comprehensive discussion on a scientific paper to peers.
- Learned how to deliver a professional scientific talk.

**PROFESSOR:**

Juan Diego Daza Ph. D.

Lee Drain Building 214

Phone: 936-294-4250

Email: daza@shsu.edu

Office Hours: Thursday 11:00 AM—2:30 PM or by appointment

**ROOM & TIME:** R, 4:00 pm - 5:15 pm, LDB 214

**ONLINE RESOURCES:**

We will be using dropbox to exchange files, also you should receive an invitation on your mailbox.

**EXPLANATION OF COURSE EVALUATION:**

There are two required assignments for each speaker

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- 1) You will read an assigned paper prior to the seminar from each researcher, so you will be familiar with its research.
- 2) At the end of the seminar you will be to submit a form about the talk. The form is your synthesis of the talk, and will help me quantify your understanding of the lecture. The form will be filled on a word document and will be submitted via dropbox.

**GRADE:**

Filled form (10 points for each seminar) = 130 points

Grading: 90-100% = A; 80-89 % = B; 70-79% = C; 60-69% = D; <60% = F.

**ATTENDANCE:**

**Attendance is mandatory.** Because each presentation is a one-time deal, no absence can be made up. Thus, your grade is dependent upon your attendance and participation. There are only 13 seminars total, so it is not difficult to attend all of them.

The seminar schedule is provided at the end of the syllabus. Please note that although the first scheduled speaker is not until Jan 26, we will meet on Jan 19 to discuss the syllabus, class policy, and grading

**CONDUCT DURING SEMINAR:**

**All students will be respectful of the speaker.** Multiple behaviors are considered disrespectful and will result in a point reduction at my discretion. Repeat offenders will be asked to leave and will receive an "F" in the course. Forbidden behaviors include. I extremely encourage you to turn off your cell phone during the seminar, the same way you do when you go to a movie theater and dedicate your attention to the lecture. The following actions are prohibited:

1. Text messaging during seminar
2. Phone ringing during seminar
3. Talking during seminar
4. Arriving late
5. Leaving early
6. Reading books newspapers, etc.
7. Doing outside work
8. Any activity other than listening to the speaker and taking notes

**The speakers can see every movement in the audience. Be aware of that and help make that person feel appreciated and important.**

**ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:**

Dishonesty will not be tolerated in this course. This includes, but is not limited to,

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cheating, plagiarizing, fabricating information or citations, facilitating acts of academic dishonesty by others, having unauthorized possession of examinations, submitting work of another person or work previously used without informing the instructor, or tampering with the academic work of other students. Students who are found to be dishonest will receive academic sanctions, such as an "F" grade on the exam. They will also be reported to the Head of the Department of Biological Sciences for possible further disciplinary action.

**VISITORS IN THE CLASSROOM:**

Unannounced visitors must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. If the visitor is not a registered student, it is my discretion whether or not the visitor will be allowed in the classroom.

**AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT:**

It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that no otherwise qualified disabled individual shall, solely by reason of his/her handicap, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any academic or Student Life program of activity. Students with disabilities may request assistance with academically related problems stemming from individual disabilities by contacting the Director of Counseling Center in the Lee Drain Annex or by calling (936) 264-1720. Students who have disabilities that may prevent them from fully demonstrating their abilities should contact the instructor as soon as possible to discuss accommodations necessary to ensure the students educational opportunity. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. NOTE: no accommodation can be made until you register with the Counseling Center.

**RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS:**

Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence. University policy 861001 provides the procedures to be followed by the student and instructor. A student desiring to absent himself/herself from a scheduled class in order to observe (a) religious holy day(s) shall present to each instructor involved a written statement concerning the religious holy day(s). This request must be made in the first fifteen days of the semester or the first seven days of a summer session in which the absence(s) will occur. The instructor will complete a form notifying the student of a reasonable timeframe in which the missed assignments and/or examinations are to be completed.

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**CLASS ATTENDANCE**

1. Regular and punctual class attendance is expected of each student at Sam Houston State University.
2. Each faculty member will keep a record of student attendance.
3. Each faculty member will announce the policies for accepting late work or providing makeup examinations. Students are expected to show appropriate cause for missing or delaying major assignments or examinations.
4. A student shall not be penalized for three or fewer hours of absences when examinations or other assigned class work has not been missed; however, at the discretion of the instructor, a student may be penalized for more than three hours of absences.
5. Each instructor is obligated to clarify in writing to each student enrolled in class at the beginning of the semester or summer session the instructor's classroom policy regarding absences.
6. Class absences will be recorded and counted only from the actual day of enrollment for the individual student in that specific class.

See more information on:

<http://www.shsu.edu/catalog/scholasticrequirements.html>

**Fall 2017 BIOL 4111 HUMAN ANATOMY**  
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Week 1	August 31	David Temple	Houston Museum of Natural Sciences
Week 2	September 7	M. Jahangir Alam	University of Houston
Week 3	September 14	Susan Klinedinst	Schreiner University
Week 4	September 21	Lytton Musselman	Old Dominion University
Week 5	September 28		
Week 6	October 5		
Week 7	October 12	Mike Barger	Peru State College
Week 8	October 19	Jessie Maisano	University of Texas at Austin
Week 9	October 26	David Hoeinghaus.	University of North Texas
Week 10	November 2	John Mohan	Texas A&M Galveston
Week 11	November 9	Larry Witmer	Ohio University
Week 12	November 16	Guillermo Ortí	The George Washington University
Week 13	Thanksgiving November	X	X
Week 14	November 30	Dr. Brandy Verhalen	UT Southwestern Medical Center

Preliminary program for all the fall 2017 Biology Seminar series.

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Date:

Your Name:

Seminar title:

Date:

Speaker:

List here all sources of data that the researcher used.

What is the main question that this researcher wants to answer?

Based on the assigned paper, what question(s) would you ask the researcher.

What was the most extraordinary thing that you learn from the talk.