Course Outline: ANSC-4700
Research in Animal Biology I

General Information

Course Title: ANSC-4700 Research in Animal Biology I

Course Description:
This course provides an opportunity for students to become more actively involved in a specific research topic in a discipline of their choosing. The student will work closely with an individual faculty advisor and be part of their research team working on a project of mutual interest. This course allows the student to review current literature and analyze lab data and/or design new protocols to further research development and knowledge in their chosen research area. The student/faculty advisor may also wish to pursue more in-depth studies through the continuation of their project in ANSC*4710, Research in Animal Biology II.

Credit Weight: 0.5

Academic Department (or campus): Department of Animal Biosciences

Campus: Guelph

Semester Offering: Fall, Winter, Spring

Class Schedule and Location:
There will be a class meeting at the beginning of the semester (date and time will be announced on Courselink). Students work closely with their research project advisor to determine a schedule for their regular one on one weekly meeting.

Course Coordinator Information

Course Coordinator Name: Julang Li
Course Coordinator Email: jli@uoguelph.ca
Office Location: ANNU 248
Office hours: Thursday 2-3:30pm

GTA Information

GTA Name: Sudhanshu Sudan
GTA Email: ssudan@uoguelph.ca
GTA office location and office hours: ANNU Room 212, by appointment
Course Content

This course is very unique in that the content depends upon the area of research chosen by the student in conjunction with the research advisor. During the course of the semester, the student will explore the literature in their chosen area of research and in conjunction with the research advisor, develop a research proposal for a real or hypothetical research project. If the student plans to continue and take ANSC-4710, the research proposal should present a research project that can be accomplished in a single semester. It is possible to enroll in both ANSC-4700 and ANSC-4710 in a single semester. In that situation, you will review the literature, propose a project, conduct the research, and analyze the results.

To complete the course requirements for ANSC-4700, students will write a literature review and research proposal and present a poster at the end of the semester. At the research advisor’s discretion, the student may combine the literature review and research proposal in a single paper.

Specific Learning Outcomes

At the completion of this course, the student will have had the unique opportunity to explore an individual research project and achieve the following learning outcomes:

- Develop an understanding of the literature in a specific field of interest
- Critically assessed the primary literature in the research area
- Further develop written communication skills
- Further develop oral and visual presentation skills
- Develop an awareness of research and the scientific method

Course Assignments and Tests

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Information</th>
<th>Weighting in Final Grade</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Literature Review</td>
<td>A paper that is graded by the research advisor</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Proposal</td>
<td>A paper that is graded by the research advisor</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poster Presentation</td>
<td>A scientific poster presented to the Department of Animal Biosciences at the end of classes and graded by the Course Coordinator, TA and other faculty</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semester Performance</td>
<td>Graded by the research advisor</td>
<td>25%</td>
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Literature Review- 25%

The literature review should present a critical review of the literature in the chosen research area.

Requirements: Approximately 10 -15 pages double-spaced, margins 1-inch all around, 12-pt Times New Roman font. Page limits do not include your reference list. The report should be
written in a format of a journal paper of the advisors choosing. Discuss the format and contents of the review with your advisor as they will be grading the review.

**Research Proposal - 25%**
The research proposal should briefly state current issue (you may want to use the relevant key point in your literature review as a basis for the introduction), outline the hypothesis and objectives of your research and the experimental design of your project. You should include expected results as well as significance of the proposed research. Potential pitfalls and alternatives may also be discussed.

Requirements: Approximately 10 pages double-spaced, margins 1-inch all around, 12-pt Times New Roman font. Page limits do not include your reference list. The report should be written in a format of a journal paper of the advisors choosing. Discuss the format and contents of the review with your advisor as they will be grading the review.

The student should discuss the specific criteria for this assessment with the supervisor at the beginning of the semester. This should include but is not limited to: preparation for meetings, interaction with others in the laboratory, organization of time, development of technical competence, research performance, and quality of laboratory notes, data organizing.

**Poster Presentation - 25%**
Please see ANSC-4700 Poster Outline for instructions.

**Student Performance (accessed by supervisor) - 25%**
The student should discuss the specific criteria for this assessment with the supervisor at the beginning of the semester. This should include but is not limited to: preparation for meetings, interaction with others in the laboratory, organization of time, development of technical competence, research performance, and quality of laboratory notes, data organizing.

**Final Report Due Date and poster presentation:**
The due day for the advisor to submit the grade is usually ~ 1-1.5 weeks after the last day of class. The student and the research advisor should mutually agree upon the due date for the final report to ensure that the research advisor has enough time to evaluate your assignment and can submit the grade in time.

*Final date to be posted once details arrive from the Register’s Office.*

**Date for student poster presentation:** see deadline list.
Location: Room ANNU 141, Animal Biosciences (ANNU) building

**Course Policies**

Grading Policies and Missed or Late Final Papers
The report *deadline is defined by mutual agreement between the research advisor and student.*
The research advisor and the student can mutually agree to modify the deadline if needed. If the
grade is not provided in time to meet the Registrar’s Grade deadline (see above), the grade will
need to be resolved through the incomplete grade system in the Registrar’s Office. Therefore,
every effort should be made to complete the course requirements before the final grade deadline.

**Grading Policies and Missed or Late Poster Presentation**
The poster presentation is scheduled by the Course Coordinator to coincide with the end of
classes or early during the exam schedule at a mutually agreeable time. Students with a valid
academic conflict can make other arrangements with the Course Coordinator to present the
poster at a different time. If a student misses their scheduled presentation time and has not
contacted the Course Coordinator, the University’s requirements for documentation of academic
consideration come into play (see below).

**University Policies**

**Academic Consideration:**

The University of Guelph is committed to supporting students in their learning experiences and
responding to their individual needs and is aware that a variety of situations or events beyond the
student's control may affect academic performance. Support is provided to accommodate
academic needs in the face of personal difficulties or unforeseen events in the form of Academic
Consideration.

Information on regulations and procedures for Academic Consideration, Appeals and Petitions,
including categories, grounds, timelines and appeals can be found in Section VIII
(Undergraduate Degree Regulations and Procedures) of the Undergraduate Calendar.

**Academic Misconduct:**

The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity
and it is the responsibility of all members of the University community, faculty, staff, and
students to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible to
prevent academic offences from occurring.

University of Guelph students have the responsibility of abiding by the University's policy on
academic misconduct regardless of their location of study; faculty, staff and students have the
responsibility of supporting an environment that discourages misconduct. Students need to
remain aware that instructors have access to and the right to use electronic and other means of
detection. Please note: Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not
relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor.

Detailed information regarding the Academic Misconduct policy is available in Section VIII (Undergraduate Degree Regulations and Procedures) of the Undergraduate Calendar.

Accessibility:

The University of Guelph is committed to creating a barrier-free environment. Providing services for students is a shared responsibility among students, faculty and administrators. This relationship is based on respect of individual rights, the dignity of the individual and the University community's shared commitment to an open and supportive learning environment. Students requiring service or accommodation, whether due to an identified, ongoing disability or a short-term disability should contact the Student Accessibility Services (SAS), formerly Centre for Students with Disabilities (CSD), as soon as possible.

For more information, contact SAS at 519-824-4120 ext. 56208 or email sas@uoguelph.ca or visit the Student Accessibility Services website (http://www.uoguelph.ca/csd/).

Course Evaluation Information:

End of semester course and instructor evaluations provide students the opportunity to have their comments and opinions used as an important component in the Faculty Tenure and Promotion process, and as valuable feedback to help instructors enhance the quality of their teaching effectiveness and course delivery.

While many course evaluations are conducted in class others are now conducted online. Please refer to the Course and Instructor Evaluation Website for more information.

Drop period:

See Section III (Schedule of Dates) of the Undergraduate Calendar.

The drop period for two semester courses starts at the beginning of the add period in the first semester and extends to the last day of the add period in the second semester.

Information about Dropping Courses can be found in Section VIII (Undergraduate Degree Regulations and Procedures) of the Undergraduate Calendar.
Additional Course Information

N/A.