JOURNAL COLLOQUY
MCB 7922
Class Periods: Asynchronous
Location: e-Learning Canvas
Academic Term: Fall, Spring, Summer

Instructor:
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321-525-1047
Office Hours: available by appointment via Zoom

Course Description - 1 credit:
This course is an online forum where students will be required to read and comment on the primary literature in the **field of environmental microbiology**. Here, we will discuss the interactions between microbes and their surrounding environment to more fully understand the impact of microbes on ecosystem functioning and health.

Course Learning Objectives:
The objectives of this Journal Club are to: 1) enhance graduate students' understanding of the current state of knowledge regarding the field of environmental microbiology; 2) provide experience in reviewing and critiquing research articles; and 3) build scientific inquiry and written skill sets.

Course Schedule: (Approximate - please follow dates in the Canvas course page)
Week 1&2:   Learn about the course structure and tutorial to the Perusal reading tool.
Week 3 - end: Read an assigned primary literature or review article and comment on the paper and discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the paper with your classmates in Perusall.

Prerequisites: No prerequisites are required

No Required or Recommended Textbooks:
No texts are required as you will be reading assigned primary literature and review articles.

Rubric for discussion posts on the literature review each week:
The rubric for each week will be as described below.
1. You will receive points for opening (10%), reading the entire paper (10%) and being actively engaged with other students (20%).
2. Most of your score (60%) will be based on the quantity and quality of your posts on the document. The quality of the posts will also be considered, and emphasis will be given for analytical posts (e.g., are you evaluating strengths and weaknesses of the paper?).

Bye Week:
I realize that life can be complicated and get very busy; therefore, each of you will be allowed to skip one week of the course. The gradebook in Canvas will automatically delete your lowest score in the course at the end of the semester, so there is no need to tell me when you plan to skip a week.

Point Breakdown: Here is the breakdown of points in the course

Points in Class	Max points
Watch Course Intro Video	3
Making the Most of Perusall - Introduction	7
Paper 1	10
Paper 2	10
Paper 3	10
Paper 4	10
Paper 5	10
Paper 6	10
Paper 7	10
Paper 8	10
Paper 9	10
Paper 10	10
Possible Points	110
Final Grade	**100**

Note: even though the course has a max of 110 points you can drop the lowest grade (e.g., bye week) and the grade will be calculated based on 100 points.

Grading Policy
The course will be evaluated on a straight scale. Those grades with a B or higher are considered a passing grade (grades highlighted in orange below) for the final programmatic assessment. Those students who do not receive a grade of B or higher would have to re-take the course again to pass the final assessment.

Grade Points	Grade
93.0 - 100	A
90.0 - 92.9	A-
87.0 - 89.9	B+
83.0 - 86.9	B
80.0 - 82.9	B-
77.0 - 79.9	C+
73.0 - 76.9	C
70.0 - 72.9	C-
67.0 - 69.9	D+
63.0 - 66.9	D
60.0 - 62.9	D-
< 60.0	E

For information on current UF policies for assigning grade points, see:

https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the Disability Resource Center. See the "Get Started With the DRC" webpage on the Disability Resource Center site. It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester. Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Student Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation. It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

Course Evaluation

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Click here for guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via ufl.bluera.com/ufl/. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students here.

University Honesty Policy

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The Honor Code specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions.

Software Use

All faculty, staff, and students of the University are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against University policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate. We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to uphold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

Student Privacy

There are federal laws protecting your privacy with regards to grades earned in courses and on individual assignments. For more information, please see the Notification to Students of FERPA Rights.

Campus Resources:

Health and Wellness

U Matter, We Care:
If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu or 352 392-1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.

Counseling and Wellness Center: counseling.ufl.edu/cwc, and 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS)
Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.

University Police Department at 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies), or police.ufl.edu.

Academic Resources

E-learning technical support, 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to Learning-support@ufl.edu.

Career Resource Center, Reitz Union, 392-1601. Career assistance and counseling.
Library Support, Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.
Teaching Center, Broward Hall, 392-2010 or 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.

Writing Studio, 302 Tigert Hall*,* 846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.
Student Complaints Campus
On-Line Students Complaints