Instructor: Christopher Evans (cme@illinois.edu)
Schedule: Tu 4:00pm-4:50pm in 119 MSEB

Course websites:
• Class schedule and gradebook: Compass

Objectives: Students will be able to present their own scientific research to an audience of peers in an informative and accessible form. Students will continue to refine their own presentation and communication skills through critical assessment of peers.

Course evaluation:
• Selected graduate students enrolled in the PhD program will present a 15 minute research seminar with time for questions. The schedule of the presentations for the fall semester is posted on Compass. If you have been selected to present on a given day and you have a schedule conflict, it is your responsibility to inform the instructor well in advance so that your presentation can be rescheduled.
• The presentations will be evaluated by 6 randomly selected students. The list of evaluators for each seminar is listed on Compass. If you are listed as an evaluator and you are absent that day, simply, prior to that date, identify a classmate who will substitute for you. This person should submit the evaluations in your name (back side of the evaluation). Failure to submit your evaluation forms will count as one unexcused absence.
• The presenters will receive the anonymous feedback from their peers.
• The top 3 presentations will be recognized at the end of the semester.

The seminar grade is based on attendance only. If you have more than 2.5 unexcused absences for the semester, you will receive an unsatisfactory grade. Excused absences are for medical or professional reasons only, such as job interview and participation to conferences. For more details about reporting absences, see below.

Grade Reporting: All attendance records are stored on the Compass2g website. Any errors in grade reporting appearing on Compass2g must be reported within 2 weeks of the due date of the assessment item or by the last day of class, whichever is earlier.

Expectations: To succeed in this class, you will need to
• attend class regularly and participate through thoughtful questions;
• prepare and practice your presentation;
• provide constructive feedback to your peers;
• seek out help when you have trouble.

Absences: Excused absences must be approved by the instructor.
1. Excuses will only be given in the following circumstances:
   (a) Illness.
   (b) Personal crisis (e.g., car accident, required court appearance, death of a close relative).
(c) Required attendance at a professional activity or official UIUC activity (e.g., professional conference, job interview, etc).

Special accommodations: To obtain disability-related academic adjustments and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact their lecturer and the Disability Resources and Educational Services (DRES, disability.illinois.edu) as soon as possible, and no later than Sept. 7.

Academic Integrity, Harassment, and Discrimination: You are bound by the University Honor Code in this course. Any violation of the Honor Code will result in disciplinary action. In addition, harassment or discrimination of any kind will not be tolerated. Please report any concerns immediately to your professor.

Changes to syllabus: May occur as deemed necessary by the professor; they will be announced.