

**Department of Environmental Health Science
College of Public Health
University of Georgia**

**EHSC 3800
Environmental Health Science Seminar
Fall 2009 Syllabus**

Course Information

Instructor: Suzy Baird
Office Location: 134 Environmental Health Science Bldg.
E-mail: sbaird@uga.edu
Phone: (352) 256-7598
Office Hours: By appointment

Course Meeting Time and Location

Building: Environmental Health Science
Room: Room 207
Day: Fridays
Time: 9:05 - 9:55 am

Textbooks and Other Required Course Material

There is no required text for this course.

Course Description

Students will research and prepare presentations on selected topics in Environmental Health Science.

Course Learning Objectives

This course is intended for seniors. Upon completion of the course, the students will be able to:

- Conduct a literature review concerning any current Environmental Health Science topic.
- Write a detailed abstract concerning a current Environmental Health Science topic.
- Prepare and deliver an oral scientific presentation using Microsoft PowerPoint.
- Evaluate presentations, including abstract content and oral presentations of fellow classmates.
- Formulate questions and participate in class discussions on Environmental Health Science topics presented by peers.

Course Requirements for Grading Purposes

1) Mandatory attendance! Roll will be taken at the beginning of each class. Each absence will result in a reduction of 1 letter grade (i.e., from “A” to “B”). Excused absences will be noted only if accompanied with written documentation. Please give instructor sufficient prior notification of any excused absences. Final decisions concerning excused/unexcused absences will be determined by the instructor.

2) Presentations: Each student will make two presentations during the semester. Each presentation should last 10-12 minutes, followed by a 3-5 minute period for questions.

3) Seminar topic: Each student will present a seminar on some topic in environmental health. The presentation should include a review of the literature pertaining to the subject or a review of a current journal article on the subject. Students must submit their proposed seminar title to the instructor by the assigned date, and the topic must be approved by the instructor.

4) Required materials:

a. Abstract: Seminar speakers must submit a 275-300 word abstract to the instructor one week prior to their seminar. Abstracts may be turned in during class or placed in the instructor’s mailbox before 5:00 pm. Copies of the abstracts must be available to the class and EHS faculty on Tuesday before the seminar; abstracts should be placed in EHS main office by noon and posted throughout the building. It will be the student’s responsibility to distribute the abstract after obtaining approval from the instructor.

b. Visual aids: The use of computer-generated visual aids is recommended for each presentation. Speakers should prepare slides or overheads using a presentation graphics program such as PowerPoint or Freelance Graphics. During the presentation, visual aids can be shown using an overhead projector, a slide projector, the computer projection system, or a combination of the media. Each student is responsible for reserving and setting up any necessary equipment prior to his/her seminar. Reservations for computers, etc should be made with Ms. Ella Willingham.

c. Bibliography: On the day of the presentation, each student must turn in a bibliography citing all reference materials used for the presentation. A minimum of 5 sources from the scientific literature must be used for each presentation. The following journals may be of interest: Environmental Health Perspectives, Science, Nature, and Science News. News media may not be used. When using an internet source, the source must be citable (i.e. government reports with report numbers and authors). Wikipedia, blogs, and other non-peer reviewed web pages are NOT sources. If you are not sure if something is an acceptable source, please ask! The following websites may aid in your seminar preparation:

Help with abstracts and presentations: www.uga.edu/honors/curo/symposium/index.html

How to cite: library.osu.edu/sites/guides/csegd.php

Scientific articles: www.libs.uga.edu, www.scholar.google.com

Course Requirements for Grading Purposes (continued)

5) Reviews: Each presentation will be evaluated by the instructor and student reviewers. Students are responsible for asking questions following presentations and discussing and reviewing presentations. Review forms will be handed out in class and collected before the end of the class period.

Topical Outline

Weekly seminar topics on environmental health issues will be guided by student interest

Grading Policy

Grades will be based on student presentations (75% based on instructor's and peer reviewers' comments) and class participation, including written reviews and questions asked.

Make-Up Policy

There are no make-up options for this course

Attendance Policy

Attendance is mandatory. See above for handling of excused absences.

University Honor Code and Academic Honesty Policy

All academic work must meet the standards contained in "A Culture of Honesty." All students are responsible to inform themselves about those standards before performing any academic work.

A link to more detailed information about academic honesty can be found at:
<http://www.uga.edu/ovpi/honesty/acadhon.htm>

Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities who require reasonable accommodations in order to participate in course activities or meet course requirements should contact the instructor or designate during regular office hours or by appointment.

General Disclaimer

The course syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary.

Tentative Schedule

Date	Class Activity
08/21/09	Organizational Meeting
08/28/09	How to Conduct a Literature Review – Guest Speaker – Monica Pereira
09/04/09	How to Make a PowerPoint/How to Write and Abstract
09/11/09	Prepare for presentations (no class)
09/18/09	Student Presentations
09/25/09	Student Presentations
10/02/09	Student Presentations
10/09/09	Student Presentations
10/16/09	Student Presentations
10/23/09	Student Presentations
10/30/09	Fall Break (no class)
11/06/09	Student Presentations
11/13/09	Student Presentations
11/20/09	SETAC (no class)
11/27/09	Thanksgiving (no class)
12/04/09	Student Presentations
12/08/09	Last Day of EHSC 3800 (Question and Answer Session/Review Grades)