

Class times: Tues 10:30-11:45 & Thurs 11-11:45 & seminar Thurs 3:30-4:30

Location: MCZ rm 202

Instructional Staff: Robin Hopkins, rhopkins@fas.harvard.edu with TF Grace Burgin, grace_burgin@g.harvard.edu

Description

The department of Organismic and Evolutionary Biology has an enormous breadth of scientific expertise. We ask a diverse array of questions, study an incredible variety of organisms, and use a wide set of tools, techniques and approaches. In an effort to expose students to this breadth of study, this course involves in-depth discussion of primary literature from across the fields of ecology, evolutionary, genetics, developmental, physiology, and behavior. The topics will be centered around the department's seminar series and highlight the work of both the diverse scientists that come to visit our department and the faculty labs that host them. Discussions will be guided by student presentations on the literature. In addition to scheduled course time, the students will be required to attend department seminars and have the opportunity to meet with each seminar speaker. The science content of this course will be complemented by instruction on evidence-based science communication strategies as well as opportunities for students to practice these skills.

Course Format

This course meets Tuesdays and Thursdays and requires attendance of department seminars on Thursday afternoons. On Tuesdays, students will give in-class presentations on papers. The weeks we have department seminars, these will be papers by the seminar speaker and other weeks these will be papers from faculty members in OEB. Thursday class time will be discussions with the department seminar speaker or activities and discussions about communication strategies.

Assessments

Students will be assessed based on their engagement with and participation in the course. Points will be allocated based on the following:

- Presentations on primary literature (30%)
- Preparedness for small group presentation practice sessions (10%)
- Written feedback on peer presentations (15%)
- Preparedness for seminar speaker visits as assessed through written questions/discussion points (15%)
- Written assignments related to the presentation content and style of department seminars (15%)
- Engagement with the assigned primary literature as assessed through participation (asking and answering questions during class) (15%)

Course Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Presenter(s)</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Practice Presentations</u>	<u>Seminar</u>	<u>Assignment(s) Due</u>
Jan-23	Tues	Robin Hopkins	Instructor presentation: seminar speaker papers (Joana Meier)			Before Class: Read Meier et al. (2023) During Class: Presentation Feedback Form for Robin
Jan-25	Thur		Seminar speaker visit (Joana Meier)	For presentations on Jan-30	Joana Meier	Before Class: Prepare for seminar speaker visit
						Before Class: Read

Jan-30	Tues	Julia Cosgrove	Student presentations: faculty papers (Cassandra Extavour)			1. Church et al. (2023) During Class: 1. Presentation Feedback Form for Julia
Feb-1	Thur		Discussion: why science communication matters	For presentations on Feb-6		Before Class: Read 1. Kuehne et al 2014 2. Cooke et al 2017
Feb-6	Tues	Catriona Breen, Sebastian Martinez-Salazar	Student presentations: seminar speaker papers (Kara McKinley)			Before Class: Read 1. Skokan et al. (2020) and 2. McKinley et al. (2018) During Class: 1. Presentation Feedback Form for Catriona and 2. Presentation Feedback Form for Sebastian
Feb-8	Thur		Seminar speaker visit (Kara McKinley)	For presentations on Feb-13	Kara McKinley	
Feb-13	Tues	Jerry Guan	Student presentations: faculty papers (Ben de Bivort)			Before Class: Read 1. Elya et al. (2023) During Class: 1. Presentation Feedback Form for Jerry
Feb-15	Thur		Discussion: developing a presentation narrative	For presentations on Feb-20		Before class read: 1. Martinez-Conde 2017 2. Kirchoff 2021
Feb-20	Tues	Fitz Dougherty, Christina Steinecke	Student presentations: seminar speaker papers (Jannice Friedman)			Before Class: Read 1. Aljiboury & Friendman (2022) and 2. Friedman et al. (2019) During Class: 1. Presentation Feedback Form for Fitz and 2. Presentation Feedback Form for Christina

Feb-22	Thur		Seminar speaker visit (Jannice Friedman)	For presentations on Feb-27	Jannice Friedman	
Feb-27	Tues	Connor White, Ryan Schmidt	Student presentations: (Evolution Faculty Search)			<p>Before class read:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Caves et al 2018 2. Lofgren et al 2018 <p>During Class: 1. Presentation Feedback Form for Connor and 2. Presentation Feedback Form for Ryan</p>
Feb-29	Thur		Discussion: creating effective visuals	For presentations on Mar-5 and Mar-7		
Mar-5	Tues	Gaurav Bhardwaj, Kelsie Lopez	Student presentations: (TBD--Evolution Faculty Search)			<p>Before class read:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Graham et al 2019 2. Miller et al 2021 <p>During Class: 1. Presentation Feedback Form for Gaurav and 2. Presentation Feedback Form for Kelsie</p>
Mar-7	Thur	Sebastian Martinez-Salazar	Student presentations: (TBD--Evolution Faculty Search)	For presentations on Mar-19		<p>Before Class: Read 1. Robinson et al. (2022)</p> <p>During Class: 1. Presentation Feedback Form for Sebastian</p>
Mar-12	Tues		<i>No class- Spring Recess</i>			
Mar-14	Thur		<i>No class- Spring Recess</i>			
						<p>Before Class: Read 1. Reeves and 2.</p>

Mar-19	Tues	Julia Cosgrove, Jerry Guan	Student presentations: seminar speaker papers (Lawrence Reeves)			Reeves During Class: 1. Presentation Feedback Form for Julia and 2. Presentation Feedback Form for Jerry
Mar-21	Thur		Seminar speaker visit (Lawrence Reeves)	For presentations on Mar-26	Lawrence Reeves	
Mar-26	Tues	Catriona Breen	Student presentations: faculty papers (Naomi Pierce)			Before Class: Read 1. Pierce During Class: 1. Presentation Feedback Form for Catie
Mar-28	Thur		Discussion: Creating an abstract	For presentations on Apr-2		Before Class: 1. Read these links and 2. bring an abstract on your research
Apr-2	Tues	Connor White, Christina Steinecke	Student presentations: seminar speaker papers (Donna Garcia)			Before Class: Read 1. Garcia and read 2. Garcia During Class: 1. Presentation Feedback Form for Connor and 2. Presentation Feedback Form for Christina
Apr-4	Thur		Seminar speaker visit (Donna Garcia)	For presentations on Apr-9	Donna Garcia	
Apr-9	Tues	Fitz Dougherty, Ryan Schmidt	Student presentations: faculty papers (Benton Taylor)			Before Class: Read 1. Taylor and 2. Taylor During Class: 1. Presentation Feedback Form for Fitz and 2. Presentation Feedback Form for Ryan
Apr-11	Thur		Discussion: Academic communication and	For Presentations		Before class please explore this

			language, culture and context	on April 16		Webpage.
Apr-16	Tues	Gaurav Bhardwaj, Kelsie Lopez	Student presentations: seminar speaker papers (Nadia Fr��bisch)			Before Class: Read 1. Fr��bisch and 2. Fr��bisch During Class: 1. Presentation Feedback Form for Gaurav and 2. Presentation Feedback Form for Kelsie
Apr-18	Thur		Seminar speaker visit (Nadia Fr��bisch)		Nadia Fr��bisch	
Apr-23	Tues		Last day of class wrap-up			