







## BIOS 196 BIOLOGY COLLOQUIUM (BCQ)

## COURSE DETAILS

 **course website**    meeting mostly in-person    wednesdays 2:00-3:50pm  
 2 credits  
 BCQ classroom SES    BCQ office SES 3360

## OVERVIEW AND GOALS

The Biology Colloquium (BCQ) is a class designed to generate a sense of excitement and community among biology majors about the (endless! amazing! breathtaking!) possibilities available to you here at UIC and after graduation. The BCQ team aims to accomplish this with cool field trips and interesting guest speakers, but we also hope to provide you with practical support and tools for success throughout the semester. Our goal is to create a welcoming and supportive community, and have some fun along the way. You are encouraged to reach out to your coordinator or student leader at any time with questions or concerns.

By the end of the course, we hope you have:

1. learned about several career possibilities available to life sciences graduates through guest speakers and field trips, and
2. developed practical skills (e.g., formal letter writing) that will aid you in your studies and your future endeavors.

**The most up-to-date information regarding course activities and materials can be found on [BCQ course website](#).**

## PREREQUISITES

There are no prerequisites for this course, and there is no textbook. We assume that you are available to attend all classes, and a general interest in biology-related careers. On some weeks we will meet together as a group for activities and guest speakers in the BCQ classroom. On other weeks, you will go on field trips with your student leader in a smaller group (locations for field trips will be determined later).


## MEET THE BCQ TEAM


For full biographies of the BCQ team (along with some pictures), check out the [BCQ course website](#).


## Course coordinator

Lucy Delaney Email: [ldelan5@uic.edu](mailto:ldelan5@uic.edu)

## Student leaders

 SL1 Email: [email@uic.edu](mailto:email@uic.edu)

 SL2 Email: [email@uic.edu](mailto:email@uic.edu)

 SL3 Email: [email@uic.edu](mailto:email@uic.edu)

 SL4 Email: [email@uic.edu](mailto:email@uic.edu)

## Faculty Advisors

 Dr. Karin Nelson Email: [karin@uic.edu](mailto:karin@uic.edu)

 Dr. Robie Mason-Gamer Email: [robie@uic.edu](mailto:robie@uic.edu)

 Prof. Mike Muller Email: [mmuller@uic.edu](mailto:mmuller@uic.edu)

## COURSE LOGISTICS

## Weekly assignments

Each week, you will be responsible for one assignment. (Twice during the semester you will also be asked to provide feedback on your student leader.) **Assignments will always be due at 11:59pm the day before your section meets.** If your section

meets on Wednesday, your assignment will be due 11:59pm on Tuesday. Find more details below about assignments and how to submit them.

### Staying in touch

Your student leader will set up a GroupMe for important course announcements, including where to meet for field trips. For any other questions or concerns, **reach out to Lucy, the course coordinator**.

### Study hall sessions

From 12p-2p on Wednesdays and Thursdays, Lucy will hold informal study hall sessions in the BCQ office on a variety of topics. During the first two weeks of classes we will determine the topics together based on the interests of the class. Anyone is welcome to stop by for any reason, and yes, there will be snacks.

## SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

### ASSIGNMENTS

### CODE OF CONDUCT

### EXPECTATIONS

This course is also a community. To that end, everyone is expected to treat others with respect. We have a general expectation of positive vibes only.

### For the BCQ team


The BCQ team is responsible for creating a welcoming environment.

## For students

We want all students to be active participants each week. Generally, this means showing up to class or field trips on-time, engaging in class activities, and respectfully listening to guest speakers.

## POLICIES

If you need any accommodations to participate in this course, make sure to register with the Disability Resource Center and inform the course coordinator within the first three weeks of class. If you need help contacting the Office of Disability Services (ODS) or assistance for any other reason, please contact the course coordinator.

 Office of Disability Services 413-2183 (voice) or (312) 413-0123 (TTY)

 [Email Lucy](#)

## Last days to drop

## Course grades

We would be lying if we said that grades didn't matter at all. But it's important to remember that grades are simply a tool used by educators to track your progress in the course: they have no relevance to your value as a human being. We are here to serve you, regardless of how many points you earn in your classes. And, if you are struggling to keep up in this course or any other, do not hesitate to reach out to your student leader or course coordinator.

## Absences

In general, this course is centered around your participation — so we expect that everyone enrolled will do their best to attend all classes. But, life happens. All students

can use up to two unexcused absences with 24-hour notice. Students with documented disabilities affecting attendance and a Letter of Accommodation will be excused for up to three absences. Any additional absences require documentation (e.g., a doctor's note).

**Excused absence:** With 24-hour notice or documentation.

Students may complete a make-up assignment in place of their normal journal or speaker reflection, but will receive zero points for attendance.

**Unexcused absence:** Without 24-hour notice or without documentation.

No makeup assignment or points for attendance.

NEED MORE HELP?