

Ver. 2021-05-03

Pharm/Phys Journal Club Committee (Objective, Structure, and Grading Policy)

1. The Journal Club Committee is responsible for running Pharmacology and Physiology Journal Club/Colloquia (PPY-6900), which will be presented by Pharmacology and Physiology Graduate Students, including both PhD and MD/PhD trainees.

2. The primary goal of PPY-6900 is to help students (i) polish public/formal presentation skills, (ii) develop critical thinking styles by formally critiquing published literature, (iii) keep updated on the relevant literature.

3. Course structure: This course is scheduled weekly during the Fall (one-credit hour) and Spring (zero-credit hour) semesters. It consists of weekly journal club presentations at which students discuss recent research findings and papers from the literature. Each student is required to present one journal club per year.

4. Grading: Students are graded based on attendance and presentation quality. Faculty are asked to complete a presentation evaluation sheet for each journal club presentation, using scores that range from “1” for unacceptable to “4.25” for outstanding. The values for all categories are then averaged. An attendance score of 3.75 is given for perfect attendance. Class participation is graded in 0.025 increments, and unexcused absences result in 0.25 deductions. Final letter grades are assigned by the course director using the following scale:

4.0 and above = A+
3.85-3.99 = A
3.75-3.84 = A-
3.5-3.74 = B+
3.0-3.49 = B
2.75-2.99 = B
2.0-2.74 = C
0-1.99 = D

5. Responsibilities: The committee is responsible for making, revising and finalizing grading policy, monitoring course running and discussing any emerging course/student-related issues. The course director is responsible for finalizing the course schedule, discussing evaluation results with the students, grading students and submitting the grade.