Syllabus and Term Paper Instructions
BIOCH 6820: Mass Spectrometry / Proteomics
Section 351
11216
[cross-listed as ITOX 6820, section 351]

Class Meetings
2 required meetings, TBA

Instructor
Dr. Steve Hartson
Office hours: by appointment in room 110 of the Henry Bellmon Research Center
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Course Description
This course will reinforce and apply the students’ knowledge of the field of proteomics.

The qualities of a good proposal, criteria for evaluating them, and the mandatory class proposal template will be presented and explained during the first lecture.

Subsequently, each student will submit a short bullet-point pre-proposal for the instructor’s approval.

Upon approval, students will submit a fuller draft of a “miniature” grant application, proposing to utilize one or more proteomics approaches.

The class will then critically review and rank all proposals.

Each student will then write a final draft of their individual proposal, responding to the instructor’s grading and to the reviewers’ critiques.

Students will be evaluated on participation in the class meetings, the quality of their first draft, the quality of their final draft, and the quality of their critiques of their colleagues’ proposals.

You are encouraged to meet individually with the instructor if you have questions or encounter difficulties.
Class Policies

Grading:

Class points can be earned as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tr>
<td>attendance &amp; participation in class</td>
<td>36 pts (18 pts per meeting x 2)</td>
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<tr>
<td>pre-proposal</td>
<td>4 pts</td>
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<tr>
<td>first formal draft of proposal</td>
<td>15 pts</td>
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<tr>
<td>your critiques/reviews of colleagues’ proposals</td>
<td>15 pts</td>
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<tr>
<td>final proposal</td>
<td>30 pts</td>
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<tr>
<td>total</td>
<td>100 pts</td>
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The proposals themselves will be graded solely on the instructor’s assessment of your successful adherence to the instructions and templates for proposals. The instructor will grade each proposal before sending it out for “review.” Proposals will not be graded on the basis of critiques/reviews, reviewer comments, nor your proposal’s “mock study section” rankings.

Reviewer’s critiques will be graded similarly, based on adherence to instructions and class templates.

Final grades will be assigned by segregating the population of students’ total scores into perceptible groupings.

Deadlines:

The course meeting times and deadlines are to be arranged (TBA).

If you miss a previously agreed upon “Study Section” meeting, that meeting absolutely cannot be made up, and you’ll miss those points.

Written assignments will be assessed a penalty of 10% of available points per day late.

Academic Honesty

You are not allowed to collaborate on the writing of your proposal.

Your proposal must be a wholly new and novel effort on your behalf: you cannot use proposals that you have written previously for other classes, exams, qualifying exercises, etc.

You may not use whole sets of ideas, specific experimental designs, or Aims that have been taken from proposals written by others. This includes any and all proposals written by your research advisor. You may propose experiments centered on your current research, but you must propose entirely new experimental goals and approaches.

You may use a published study to inspire your proposal. If you do choose to use published work thusly, you must reference that work. If you choose to use a published study as your subject matter, you must propose a technical approach that is clearly different than that used by the published study, and you must develop the rational for using this new (and hopefully superior) technical approach.
If at any time, you use Microsoft Word’s “cut” and “paste” commands, you are almost certainly plagiarizing. No amount of word shuffling can forgive the initial theft.

If any of these guidelines are not clear to you, or if you have specific questions, you are strongly encouraged to visit with the instructor for clarifications.

Violation of this policy will result in an "F!" for the course, and may include additional sanctions at the Departmental, College, or University levels.

**Class meetings (dates and times are TBA)**

**Class Meeting #1**
- Lecture-Introduction to Research Proposals and Review Process
- Exercise-Dissection of an Example Proposal

**Class Meeting #2**
- “Study Section”

**Assignments**

**Assignment #1**
- Use the template provided in class to write a **bullet list** pre-proposal, and email it to the instructor for approval to proceed with that subject.

**Assignment #2**
- Closely following the template, write your Proposal First Draft and submit it to the instructor. He/she will grade it, and will then forward it to assigned reviewers (classmates) for formal critiquing.

**Assignment #3**
- Write reviews of the Proposal First Drafts written by your classmates that have been assigned to you, and send them to the instructor for grading.

**Assignment #4**
- Bring your critiques to the mock study section (second class meeting). Be prepared to present to the panelists the merits and deficiencies of the proposals that were assigned to you.

**Assignment #5**
- Revise your Proposal First Draft, and submit the resulting Proposal Final Draft to the instructor for grading.