

**HUN 6938**  
**NUTRITIONAL SCIENCES SEMINAR**

**Coordinator:** Harry S. Sitren  
**Office:** 441A FSHN Bldg.  
**Office Hrs:** MWF 3:00-4:00 p.m., and by appointment  
**Telephone:** 392-1991, ext. 216  
**E-mail:** sitren@ufl.edu

**Course Purpose:**

The primary function of the seminar course is to provide students with the opportunity to gain experience in organization of material, dissemination of library and/or original research, and communication skills in the areas of nutrition and other health sciences. In addition, guest speakers will be scheduled to enrich student and faculty exposure to a variety of topics in these disciplines.

**Grading Policy:**

**Attendance and participation** – All FSHN graduate students are required to attend seminar each term: attendance is recorded each week and is taken into account in the grade given when the student takes seminar for credit. FS students normally attend FS seminar and HUN students attend NS seminar. If there are class conflicts, students may attend the alternate seminar series. Students are expected to participate in the oral discussions and to provide fellow students with written evaluations of their presentations. Seminar grades are based upon the faculty evaluations and average of the grades from the departmental evaluation form (attached) and upon attendance. All faculty and peer evaluation forms will be returned to the student speaker, usually within one week after the seminar.

If absent from a seminar, a petition for an excused absence may be made to the coordinator. If there is a conflict and more than one absence will occur, the student must submit a petition for an excused absence to the Chair of the FSHN Graduate Curriculum Committee. Students who have more than three unexcused absences over the course of their matriculation will be referred to their Supervisory Committees for appropriate action and the final seminar grade will be lowered by a minimum of one letter grade.

**Seminar Presentations:**

M.S. thesis degree students will present one 20-minute seminar plus 5-minute discussion on a topic that covers their research work. M.S. nonthesis degree Nutritional Science students must present a 30-minute seminar plus 5-minute discussion on a topic approved by the Major Professor.

Except for the final (dissertation) seminar, Ph.D. students must present, in a colloquium format, a 30-35 minute seminar on a theme topic which is assigned at the beginning of the semester. This presentation should be on one or two prominent papers from the literature. Alternatively, the student may elect to make a one-time presentation of their doctoral dissertation proposal in lieu of a theme seminar that year. The final seminar of the student's program must be a 40-45 min presentation of the completed dissertation research.

## **FSHN Dept Graduate Student Seminar Policy**

1. Students who plan to give a seminar must contact the Seminar Coordinator by midterm of the semester prior to the semester of presentation. The student should define whether the seminar will be the final research seminar (M.S. or Ph.D.) or a theme seminar (Ph.D.), and also request dates for the presentation. Students must obtain permission from their Major Professor to schedule their final (research) seminar. Note: Students with special circumstances or conflicts, if arranged prior to the coordinator finalizing the seminar schedule, may receive a grade of Incomplete.
2.
  - a. Ph.D. students who cancel the final research seminar will be required to give a theme seminar in its place as defined in the FSHN Department Graduate Student Handbook. The student will then be required to reschedule his/her final research seminar for a subsequent semester.
  - b. An M.S. student who wishes to cancel the final research seminar after an agreed upon date in the seminar schedule will be required to either give a theme seminar, or an update of their research. The student must schedule a final thesis research seminar for a subsequent semester.
3. Theme seminar papers must be pre-approved by the Seminar Coordinator.

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**Abstract**

Abstracts should be posted one week in advance of the scheduled presentation. Please email Ms. Marianne Mangone (359 FSHN) your abstract in WordPerfect. She will send out email announcements and also post copies in designated locations. Please ask your major professor to read over the abstract and revise before submitting to Ms. Mangone. The abstract counts 10% of your seminar grade.

**Theme Article**

At least one week prior to your date, email the theme article by PDF to Marianne. However, email me before that time to first obtain my approval of your article.

**Visuals**

PowerPoint is the preferred method for presentations. It is wise to carefully proof your slides for readability, color, etc. Perhaps ask a colleague or your advisor to review the slides.

You should have back-up transparencies in the event of computer projection system failure.

It is imperative that you arrive at the seminar room well in advance of the start time to make sure that everything is in working order.

**Evaluation**

Copies of the peer evaluation form and the faculty evaluation form are attached.

## GRADUATE STUDENT PEER EVALUATION OF SEMINAR

SPEAKER \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

Please evaluate the speaker in each of the following areas. Comments should be constructive and specific. **Print your name below so that it is legible.** If a section is "not applicable" for this seminar, put N/A in the blank area. This sheet with your comments and your name will be given to the speaker.

**Content, quality and appropriateness of the abstract:**

**Thoroughness and appropriateness of the literature review:**

**Appropriateness and depth of the discussion of methods and procedures:**

**Interpretations of data and validity of conclusions:**

**Quality of presentation, including visuals, speech, organization and timing:**

**Educational value or scientific merit:**

**Response to questions:**

**Overall impression:**

NAME OF EVALUATOR \_\_\_\_\_

## GRADUATE STUDENT SEMINAR (6938) GRADING SHEET

Speaker \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

		SCORE
ABSTRACT	(10%)	_____
LITERATURE REVIEW (thoroughness, depth, appropriateness)	(10%)	_____
METHODS, PROCEDURES, APPROACH	(10%)	_____
RESULTS and CONCLUSIONS (interpretation, validity)	(15%)	_____
SLIDE QUALITY (spelling, appropriateness, legibility)	(10%)	_____
ORAL PRESENTATION (audibility, poise, pronunciation)	(10%)	_____
TIMING	(5%)	_____
SCIENTIFIC MERIT or EDUCATIONAL VALUE (hypothesis, objectives, technical or practical usefulness)	(20%)	_____
RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS	(10%)	_____
	<b>TOTAL</b>	_____

**GRADING SCALE:**

90-100 = A  
85-89 = B+  
80-84 = B  
75-79 = C+  
70-74 = C

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**COMMENTS**

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Signature of Faculty Evaluator \_\_\_\_\_

MEMORANDUM

TO: Students presenting seminars

FROM: H. S. Sitren, Nutritional Science Seminar Coordinator

Please complete the following on this sheet and return to me as soon as possible. I use this information for your introduction at seminar.

1. Title of Seminar

2. Short autobiography, including:

Birthplace

Degree(s), & year conferred, & institution

Major

Minor

Date entered UF

Advisor

3. Anything else you think is appropriate for your introduction.