

NUTRITIONAL SCIENCES SEMINAR (HUN 6938 Section 2206)
Course Syllabus
Spring 2021 (1 credit)
THEME: Nutrition and COVID-19

Coordinator: Wendy J. Dahl PhD RD FDC
Office: Room 207, FSHN Building
Office hours: Tuesdays 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. or by appointment over Zoom
Phone: 352 294 3707 (office)
e-mail: wdahl@ufl.edu

Class time: Thursday 3:45 to 4:45 p.m.
Class Location: G001 MCCD*

***Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, seminar will be held online over Zoom until further notice.**

Course Description

Presentation of reports on research in nutrition. Prerequisite: Permission of Coordinator.

Additional Course Information

The primary function of the seminar course is to provide students with the opportunity to gain experience in discourse of nutritional and biomedical research. Students will have the opportunity to display their own research and/or review peer-reviewed scientific research. Highly regarded visiting speakers will be scheduled to enrich student and faculty experience.

Course Objectives:

Upon completion of this course, students will:

- use critical thinking to evaluate nutritional sciences research
- develop skills in scientific communication and discourse
- give and receive constructive feedback

Attendance and Expectations for Discussion

Students are expected to attend all scheduled seminar sessions, arrive on time, and be present for the entire class. One unexcused absence per term is allowed. Excused absences are granted for unavoidable class conflicts. An excused absence is any unavoidable, unplanned situation such as an illness, death in the family, or car accident. Proof of illness is required (e.g. note from physician or clinic; vague notes such as “was seen” are not acceptable), death (e.g. obituary), accident (e.g. police report), etc. Please notify the coordinator about your situation as soon as possible, leaving a message if necessary (by text message, email or voice mail). Any petition to be excused from seminar attendance for reasons other than those listed above must be approved by the Graduate Coordinator and in some cases by the Graduate Committee. Students are expected to show courtesy to their classmates, seminar attendees, and guest speakers by silencing cell phones before the seminar begins and refraining from engaging in personal laptop/cell phone use and conversations during seminar presentations and discussions.

All FSHN graduate students are required to attend seminar each term. Food Science (FS) students normally attend FS seminar and HUN students attend Nutritional Sciences seminar. If there are class conflicts, students may be permitted attend the alternate seminar series. Students are expected to participate in the discussions by posing thoughtful questions to seminar presenters and to provide fellow students with written evaluations of their presentations.

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. non-thesis degree students must present a 30-minute seminar plus 5-minute discussion on the theme topic for that semester. This is typically given in the last semester prior to graduation.

Except for the final (dissertation) seminar, Ph.D. students must present, in a colloquium format, a 30- to 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 and typically occurs in their final semester prior to graduation.

Student Evaluation

Seminar grades are based upon faculty evaluations and average of the grades from appropriate the departmental evaluation form (see below). All faculty and peer evaluation forms will be returned to the student speaker, usually within one week after the seminar. Attendance is recorded each week. 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 occurs, the student must submit a petition for an excused absence to the Chair of the FSHN Graduate 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.

Grading Scale

90-100 = A
85-89 = B+
80-84 = B
75-79 = C+
70-74 = C
65-69 = D+
60-64 = D
<60 = E

Grades and Grade Points

For information on current UF policies for assigning grade points, see <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/>.

Attendance and Make-Up Work

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments and other work are consistent with university policies that can be found at: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/>.

COVID Response Statements

We will have face-to-face instructional sessions to accomplish the student learning objectives of this course. In response to COVID-19, the following policies and requirements are in place to maintain your learning environment and to enhance the safety of our in-classroom interactions.

- You are required to wear approved face coverings at all times during class and within buildings. Following and enforcing these policies and requirements are all of our responsibility. Failure to do so will lead to a report to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution.
- This course has been assigned a physical classroom with enough capacity to maintain physical distancing (6 feet between individuals) requirements. Please utilize designated seats and maintain appropriate spacing between students. Please do not move desks or stations.
- Sanitizing supplies are available in the classroom if you wish to wipe down your desks prior to sitting down and at the end of the class.
- Follow your instructor's guidance on how to enter and exit the classroom. Practice physical distancing to the extent possible when entering and exiting the classroom.
- If you are experiencing COVID-19 click here for guidance from the CDC on symptoms <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>; please use the UF Health screening system and follow the instructions on whether you are able to attend class. Click here <https://coronavirus.ufhealth.org/screen-test-protect/covid-19-exposure-and-symptoms-who-do-i-call-if/> for UF Health guidance on what to do if you have been exposed to or are experiencing Covid-19 symptoms.

Course materials will be provided to you with an excused absence, and you will be given a reasonable amount of time to make up work. Find more information in the university attendance policies.

Our class sessions may be audio-visually recorded for students in the class to refer back and for enrolled students who are unable to attend live. Students who participate with their camera engaged or utilize a profile image are agreeing to have their video or image recorded. If you are unwilling to consent to have your profile or video image recorded, be sure to keep your camera off and do not use a profile image. Likewise, students who un-mute during class and participate orally are agreeing to have their voices recorded. If you are not willing to consent to have your voice recorded during class, you will need to keep your mute button activated and communicate exclusively using the "chat" feature, which allows students to type questions and comments live. The chat will not be recorded or shared. As in all courses, unauthorized recording and unauthorized sharing of recorded materials is prohibited.

Online Course Evaluation Process

Student assessment of instruction is an important part of efforts to improve teaching and learning. At the end of the semester, students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course using a standard set of university and college criteria. Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at:

<https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens and can complete evaluations through the e-mail they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at: <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

Academic Honesty

As a student at the University of Florida, you have committed yourself to uphold the Honor Code, which includes the following pledge: "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity." You are expected to exhibit behavior consistent with this commitment to the UF academic community, and on all work submitted for credit at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."

It is assumed that you will complete all work independently in each course unless the instructor provides explicit permission for you to collaborate on course tasks (e.g. assignments, papers, quizzes, exams). Furthermore, as part of your obligation to uphold the Honor Code, you should report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. It is your individual responsibility to know and comply with all university policies and procedures regarding academic integrity and the Student Honor Code. Violations of the Honor Code at the University of Florida will not be tolerated. Violations will be reported to the Dean of Students Office for consideration of disciplinary action. For more information regarding the Student Honor Code, please see: <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code>.

Software Use

All faculty, staff and students of the university are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against university policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate.

Services for Students with Disabilities

The Disability Resource Center coordinates the needed accommodations of students with disabilities. This includes registering disabilities, recommending academic accommodations within the classroom, accessing special adaptive computer equipment, providing interpretation services and mediating faculty-student disability related issues. Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation
0001 Reid Hall, 352-392-8565, <https://disability.ufl.edu/>

Campus Helping Resources

Students experiencing crises or personal problems that interfere with their general well-being are encouraged to utilize the university's counseling resources. The Counseling & Wellness Center provides confidential counseling services at no cost for currently enrolled students. Resources are available on campus for students having personal problems or lacking clear career or academic goals, which interfere with their academic performance.

- University Counseling & Wellness Center, 3190 Radio Road, 352-392-1575, www.counseling.ufl.edu
- Counseling Services Groups and Workshops Outreach and Consultation Self-Help Library Wellness Coaching
- U Matter We Care, www.umatter.ufl.edu/
- Career Connections Center, First Floor JWRU, 392-1601, <https://career.ufl.edu/>.
- Student Success Initiative, <http://studentsuccess.ufl.edu>. Student Complaints:
- Residential Course: <https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/>.
- Online Course: <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process>

Student Complaints

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FSHN Department Graduate Student Seminar Procedures

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 (thesis M.S. or Ph.D.) or a theme seminar (non-thesis M.S. and 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.

Further Information:

Abstract

Abstracts should be posted one week in advance of the scheduled presentation. Please email Ms. Rachel Vinyard rvinyard@ufl.edu your abstract in Word at least one week prior to your presentation. She will send out email announcement and also post copies in designated locations. Please ask your major professor to review the abstract and revise before submitting to Ms. Vinyard. The abstract submission counts 10% of your seminar grade.

Theme Article

At least 10 days prior to your presentation date, email the theme article by PDF to the seminar coordinator, wdahl@ufl.edu.

Visuals

PowerPoint is the preferred method for presentations. Carefully proof your slides for readability, color, etc. Ask a colleague or your advisor to review the slides. It is imperative that you arrive at the seminar room (or join by Zoom) well in advance of the start time to make sure that everything is in working order.

Evaluation: Forms are below for your review. Evaluations will be online by Qualtrics.

Doctoral Student Seminar (HUN 6938) GRADING SHEET: Theme Presentation

SPEAKER _____

DATE _____

	Points	SCORE
Quality of article selected for presentation	(5)	_____
Cogent reason(s) for choosing article	(5)	_____
Review of topic background	(10)	_____
Review of methodology	(10)	_____
Presentation of Results and Conclusions	(15)	_____
Demonstration of understanding the research and understanding subject concepts	(15)	_____
Slide Quality (spelling, appropriateness, legibility)	(5)	_____
Oral Presentation (audibility, poise, pronunciation)	(10)	_____
Scientific Merit/Educational Value (hypothesis, objectives, usefulness)	(15)	_____
Responses to Questions	(10)	_____
		TOTAL (out of 100) _____

COMMENTS:

Faculty Signature _____

PEER EVALUATION OF SEMINAR

SPEAKER _____

DATE _____

Please evaluate the speaker in each of the following areas. Comments should be constructive and specific. If a section is "not applicable" for this seminar, put N/A in the blank area. 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%)	_____
	TOTAL	_____

GRADING SCALE:

90-100 = A; 85-89 = B+; 80-84 = B; 75-79 = C+; 70-74 = C; 65-69 = D+; 60-64 = D; <60 = E

COMMENTS

Signature of Faculty Evaluator _____

MEMORANDUM

TO: Students Presenting Seminars

FROM: Wendy J. Dahl, Ph.D., Nutritional Sciences Seminar Coordinator

Please complete the following information 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.

SEMINAR CLASS SCHEDULE*

Date	Topic
January 14	Course Introduction by Zoom. No seminar
January 21	Theme presentation
January 28	Theme presentation
February 4	Guest speaker
February 11	Theme presentation
February 18	Theme presentation
February 25	Theme presentation
March 4	Guest speaker
March 11	Dissertation Final Seminar
March 18	Guest speaker
March 25	Dissertation Final Seminar
April 1	TBA
April 8	TBA
April 15	Dissertation Final Seminar

*Subject to change.