

## **FOS 6938 - GRADUATE FOOD SCIENCE SEMINAR**

Fall Semester 2025

Tuesday 3:30-4:30 PM- Room G001 McCarty  
and via Zoom at <https://ufl.zoom.us/j/9136470660>  
Meeting ID: 913 647 0660

**Instructor:** Dr. Keith R. Schneider

**Department:** Food Science and Human Nutrition

**Office:** Aquatic Foods Product Laboratory (AFPL 215)

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**Office hours:** Tues/Thurs 9:00-11:00

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course provides a forum for graduate students to present their original research or a general topic that is relevant to Food Science. They will become more informed on various aspects of the technology in food science. This seminar series will include both student presentations and invited speakers selected from outstanding professionals in the areas of Food Microbiology, Food Chemistry, and Food Processing. The purpose of the course is to increase awareness of current issues, research, and careers in food science. Student presentations will build oral and written communication skills and inform the department on topics of interest and on individual graduate research accomplishments. MS students are required to present one seminar on their MS thesis research. After the first year, PhD students are required to present one seminar annually on any relevant topic in Food Science and an exit seminar on their PhD dissertation research.

### **LEARNING OUTCOMES**

1. Integrate various aspects of Food Microbiology, Food Chemistry, and Food Processing
2. Increase student awareness of important and topical issues in Food Science
3. Build oral presentation and written communication skills
4. Improve skills for conducting literature searches
5. Enhance preparation for careers in food science

### **GRADING AND EVALUATION**

This is a one-credit graduate course with grades assigned based on class participation and attendance (10%), faculty evaluations (worth two-thirds) and student evaluations (worth one-third) of student presentations (90%). Students must submit their seminar topic during the second week of class. Students enrolled for a PhD general presentation must approve their topic with the instructor. **Performance indicators include the following**

- ☐ Course attendance
- ☐ Class participation
- ☐ Ability to perform literature searches
- ☐ Written abstract
- ☐ Improved oral presentation skill
- ☐ Faculty and student evaluations

## Extra Credit

One of the toughest things to try to get an audience to do is to 'engage' in discussion. We can do this through asking questions after a presentation. As a student enroll in this course, you are encouraged to participate and aid your fellow students by listening and asking inciteful questions. Each student is allowed to ask one question per seminar. Each question is worth 1 grade point. Not every student will be able to ask a question each week, but I will try to give the opportunity for each of you to earn at least 3 extra credit points each semester. This will equate to ½ of a letter grade.

## Grading scale:

A=90-100

B+=87-89

B=80-86

C+=77-79

C=70-76

D+=67-69

D=60-66

## IMPORTANT DATES:

Date	Speaker (Advisor)	Title
Aug 26	Schneider	First Class Meeting
Sept 2	Schneider	Do's and Don'ts of a Presentation
Sept 9	Jeff Cowles, Research Chef	TBA
Sept 16	Student 1	TBA
Sept 23	Student 2	TBA
Sept 30	Razieh Mirmahdi	TBA
Oct 7	Dongjoo Kim	TBA
Oct 14	Student 5	TBA
Oct 21	Student 6	TBA
Oct 28	Student 7	TBA
Nov 4	Student 8	TBA
Nov 11	<b>Veterans Day Holiday</b>	<b>No Class</b>
Nov 18	Miguel Vasconez	Using OMICS approaches to understand the formation and relative quantification of important aroma compounds in Mango
Nov 25	<b>Thanksgiving Holiday</b>	<b>No Class</b>
Aug 5	Schneider	Class wrap-up (for only those registered)

One week before your scheduled presentation, abstracts are due and must be submitted directly to Dr. Schneider by Wednesday (5 pm). Slides are due on the Friday (5 pm) prior to your presentation. If possible, consider giving your research presentations prior to your thesis/dissertation defense.

## SEMINAR FORMAT:

**Attendance is mandatory for all graduate students** unless you have been granted permission in ADVANCE. Missing more than 1 seminar in a semester will result in a one-letter grade reduction. Students who are unable to attend the seminar because of a conflict with another

class or teaching assignment must notify Dr. Schneider of the dates of their absence. Seminars can be viewed remotely via Zoom for students at Lake Alfred.

**All presentations** should include the following:

1. All general presentations should be original and not recycled from other classes
2. An original abstract
3. General introduction of the topic
4. The rationale for the research topic selected
5. Brief description of methods
6. Critical evaluation of results
7. Conclusion on the significance of these papers or original research
8. All presentation will be given 'live' on main campus or at CREC (This class is designed to have students experience lecturing in front of an audience. Each seminar will also be available via Zoom, for those students not on campus)

**Abstract style** should be similar to the type of abstract that would be submitted to a national meeting of a food science society, such as IFT <http://www.ift.org>, ASM <http://www.asm.org>, or IAFP <http://www.foodprotection.org/annualmeeting/>. Content should include an introduction to your topic, a brief description of your papers or research methods and results. Please include references you plan to use in your presentation. (Examples will be posted on Canvas)

**PhD General Seminar.** After their first year, PhD students are required to present annually a **40-minute** presentation with time for 5 minutes of discussion on a food science topic of their choice. This topic should not be directly related to their research topic, but rather an exploration of interest to them and their fellow students. The format will be 'lecture-style' and as a review of a particular topic. The presentation should include several excellent research papers that have significantly contributed to the area of Food Science. Other related or review papers should also be discussed to provide background for this paper. References should be provided during (not at the end) the presentation as the cited material is discussed. All topics must be approved for presentation by Dr. Schneider. A referenced abstract will be submitted one week prior to the presentation. Presentations will be evaluated on the basis of the quality of the selected literature, the presentation of the research material, and the integration of the material into the broader issues of Food Science.

**MS Research Seminar.** Students are required to give a **25-minute** presentation with 5 minutes for discussion on their MS research. This presentation should include an introduction to the research area, an overview of the literature, and the rationale for pursuing the hypothesis under investigation. Results should be presented in a format that is typical for appropriate peer-reviewed journals and includes statistical analysis. The conclusion and discussion will include how the research integrates with related research and the significant contributions of this research to advance the field of Food Science. This seminar will typically be given during the semester of graduation.

**PhD Research Seminar.** PhD students are also required to present a **40-minute** talk and 5

minutes for questions for their final seminar based on their PhD dissertation research. This presentation should be an extended version of the format as described above for MS. research presentations. This seminar will typically be given during the semester of graduation.

### **Attendance and Make-Up Work**

Attendance for seminar is mandatory. Points from your participation grade will be deducted for each seminar missed without an excused absence or prior approval from the instructors. An unexcused absence will result in a 10-point deduction from your final grade. Anyone not able to give their seminar during the normal semester class times will be given an "I" and will be allowed to present the following semester. Only one such deferral will be given.

### **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 email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluer.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 who have personal problems or lack clear career or academic goals, which interfere with their academic performance.

- U Matter, We Care: If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto:umatter@ufl.edu), 352-392-1575, or visit the U Matter, We Care website to refer or report a concern, and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.
- Counseling and Wellness Center: Visit the Counseling and Wellness Center website or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.
- Student Health Care Center: Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need or visit the Student Health Care Center website.
- University Police Department: Visit UF Police Department website or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).
- UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center: For immediate medical care call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; Visit the UF Health Emergency Room and Trauma Center website.
- GatorWell Health Promotion Services: For prevention services focused on optimal wellbeing, including Wellness Coaching for Academic Success, visit the GatorWell website or call 352-273-4450.
- Student Success Initiative, <https://studentsuccess.ufl.edu/>.
- Field and Fork Pantry. Food and toiletries for students experiencing food insecurity.
- Dean of Students Office. 202 Peabody Hall, 392-1261. Among other services, the DSO assists students who are experiencing situations that compromises their ability to attend

classes. This includes family emergencies and medical issues (including mental health crises).