Introduction to Honors I -1 credit

BSC 4038-001-24291

Location: Sanson Science SC 119

Time: Fri 10:00 am -11:50 am

Spring Semester 2015

*Instructors:*

Dr. Evelyn Frazier (Sanson SC 212; 7- 4472; efrazier@fau.edu) Dr. John Nambu (Sanson SC 207; jnambu@fau.edu)

*TAs:* Chelsea Bennice (cbennice@fau.edu) Ramon Garcia-Areas(rgarci45@fau.edu)

*Office Hours:* By Appointment please e-mail Chelsea or Ramon

*Preamble:* The Introduction to Honors Program in the department of Biological Sciences was built upon our experience from the Undergraduate Research and Mentoring Program funded by the National Science Foundation (Grant #0829250,

2009-2013). This program consists of two courses developed to introduce undergraduate students to research and develop the skills required to succeed in a career in research. This program aims to foster research experiences for undergraduate students, especially those of groups underrepresented in the sciences. The ultimate objective of this program is to prepare undergraduate students for a career in science. Scholars will identify potential research advisors in Spring and develop a research question. This program CANNOT guarantee that a student will be matched to a faculty member. Our job is to FACILITATE the matching by inviting faculty to talk to the group, but it is the STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY to establish a connection with a research faculty.

Students who have been matched to a research faculty and successfully completes the course -Introduction to Honors I, will be invited register for Introduction to Honors II in summer. In summer students will dedicate 30 hours a week in their lab and two hours a week for our meetings for 10 weeks. Students will develop their independent research projects and present a draft of a research proposal by the end of summer. Scholars will also receive training in software, preparation of oral presentations, making posters, career training, etc.

Course Outcomes: After completion of this course students should be able to:

1. Read, comprehend and analyze scientific writing

2. Understand and apply scientific concepts

3. Interpret scientific graphs and figures

4. Gain an understanding that the scientific discovery is an ongoing and dynamic process

5. Gain an understanding of ethics and responsible conduct in science

6. Communicate the ideas within the research project in a written proposal as well as an oral presentation.

Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes: Students will learn to:

1. Conduct a literature search, and navigate important research related websites.

2. Critically analyze scientific articles, as well as critique oral presentations

3. Utilize several software required for making presentations (e.g., Microsoft Office and Photoshop).

4. Complete laboratory safety training courses offered through the Environmental

Health and Safety office

5. Write a research proposal and present it to the group.

6. Develop a research question found in current literature.

Grading: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory. Attendance is required for the student to obtain a passing/satisfactory grade. If a student misses 3 or more meetings the student will receive an Unsatisfactory grade. Students who are late turning in assignments, or fail to turn in assignments will also receive an Unsatisfactory grade.

Policy on makeup class work, late work, and incompletes

Students will not be penalized for absences due to participation in University­ approved activities, including athletic or scholastics teams, musical and theatrical performances, and debate activities. These students will be allowed to make up missed work without any reduction in the student's final course grade. Students have to contact the faculty and teaching assistants BEFORE these events to arrange for appropriate make-up arrangements that might include turning in the assignment earlier. Reasonable accommodation will

also be made for students participating in a religious observance. Also, note that grades of Incomplete ("I") are reserved for students who are passing a course (with a C-) but have not completed all the required work because of exceptional circumstances. A grade of "I" will only be given under certain conditions and in accordance with the academic policies and regulations put forward in FAU's University Catalog. The student must show exceptional circumstances why requirements cannot be met. A request for an incomplete grade has to be made in writing with supporting documentation, where appropriate.

Prerequisites: None applicable

Code of Academic Integrity policy statement

Students at Florida Atlantic University are expected to maintain the highest ethical standards. Academic dishonesty is considered a serious breach of these ethical standards,

because it interferes with the university mission to provide a high quality education in which no student enjoys an unfair advantage over any other. Academic dishonesty is also destructive of the university community, which is grounded in a system of mutual trust and places high value on personal integrity and individual responsibility. Harsh penalties are associated with academic dishonesty. For more information, see University Regulation 4.001. Plagiarism is a type of academic dishonesty and will be pursued as such. <http://www.fau.edu/regulations/chapter4/4.001_Code_of_Academic_Integrity.pdf>

**Instructions to students:**

Please tum in all your work as a Word document (.doc, not .docx) in SafeAssign through our Honors blackboard site. Your file should be names as follow: your name, the title of the work, and the date of submission, i.e. Garcia Research Poster 01-13-2012. Once the teaching assistant has made suggestions, we expect them to be incorporated in your paper. If you disagree with the suggestions, please talk to T.A. and explain your reasoning for not incorporating the suggested changes. Only final versions should be

submitted to Dr. Nambu and Dr. Frazier. We also expect our suggestions be incorporated on your final version. IF you disagree with the suggestions, explain in writing, why you have chosen not to incorporate them in your final version. All final versions of your documents should be turned in through SafeAssign via blackboard.

**Required Books/Supplements:** None

**Black board:** is an online educational program that ALL students enrolled in this class have FREE access to. All you need to do is go to [http://blackboard.fau.edu](http://blackboard.fau.edu/) and follow procedures to login.

**E-mail:** All students are required to check their FAU e-mails every day once a day. Your instructor as well as your TA will be communicating with you personally via e-mail. DO NOT have your FAU account forwarded to AOL or other e-mail sites because some messages will NOT make it through.

**E-mail Etiquette:** Wait 24 hours for a response to your e-mail. Do not expect anyone to reply during a weekend or holiday. When e-mailing your T.A.'s, faculty or staff at FAU, please write e-mails in a professional format. WE ARE NOT YOUR BUDDIES! We have a PROFESSIONAL relationship and you should be trained to correspond in a professional manner. Here are some suggestions: Greetings: refer to the faculty as Dr. Last Name, T.A.'s and FAU staff as Mr. LAST NAME or Mrs./Ms. LAST NAME; Subject line of the e-mail should include: Course name or number:e.g.introduction to Honors I or BSC4930; and ALWAYS write your FULL NAME.

**INNAPROPRIATE E-mail example:"** yo, what is my grade b4 the final?" NEVER USE abbreviations such as used in text messaging. No one should have to answer such

an e-mail! Always include a greeting with the appropriate titles, and make sure to include your full name at the end of the email.

**Reli ious Accommodations:** Students who wish to be excused from class activities or exammat1ons must not! t e instructor in advance of their intention to participate in religious observation and request an excused absence. All coursework has to be made up.

**Disability policy statement**

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), students who require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to properly execute coursework must register with the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) --in Boca Raton, SU 133 (561-297-3880); in Davie, LA 240 (954-236-1222); in Jupiter, SR 110 (561-799-8010); or at the Treasure Coast, CO 117 (772-873-3441) and follow their instructions.

SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

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| Week | Date | Activity | Homework | Due D | a te4/201 |
| Week IChelsea | 1/09/2015 | I ) Introduction, picture taking,discussion of expectations and schedule2) Discuss how to email potential advisors | I) Look up the names of the facul ty youare interested in working with, read one research paper abstract of two faculty2) Submit a brief personal description ofyourself | 1/1 |
| Week2Chelsea | 1116/2015 | l) Introduction and discussion of areasof research interests, program activities and expectations2) Finding scientific references3) Using FAU libraryServices/Databases | l) Read one reference regarding a topic ofresearch related to the research conducted by the faculty who will be giving the talk next week, read it and submit a summary | 1121/20I |
| Week3Ramon | 1123/2015 | Presentations, Speaker l & 2 | I ) Write a two paragraph paper on yourunderstanding of the research questionsand how they were addressed by this week 's invited speaker2) Read one reference regarding a topic of research related to the research conducted by the faculty who will be giving the tal k next week, read it and submit a summary | 1/28/2015 |
| Week4Chelsea | 1/30/2015 | Presentations, Speaker 3 & 4 | I) Write a two paragraph paper on yourunderstanding of the research questions and how they were addressed by this week's invited speaker2) Read one reference regarding a topic of research related to the research conducted by the faculty who will be giving the talk next week, read it and submit a summary | 2/4/2015 |
| WeekSRamon | 2/6/2015 | Presentations, Speaker *5* & 6 | I) Write a two paragraph paper on yourunderstanding of the research questionsand how they were addressed by this week's invited speaker2) Read one reference regarding a topic of research related to the research conducted by the faculty who will be giving the talk next week, read it and submit a summary | 2/11/201 |
| Week6Frazier | 2/13/2015 | Presentations, Speaker 7 & 8 | 1 ) Write a two paragraph paper on yourunderstand ing of the research questions and how they were addressed by this week's invited speaker2) Read one reference regarding a topic ofresearch related to the research conducted by the faculty who will be giving the talk next week, read it and submit a summary | 2/1 8/201 |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Week?Frazier | 2/2012015 | Presentations, Speaker 9 & I0 | I) Write a two paragraph paper on yourunderstanding of the research questionsand how they were addressed by this week's invited speaker2) Read one reference regarding a topic ofresearch related to the research conducted by the faculty who will be giving the tal k next week, read it and submit a summary | 2/25/201 |
| WeekSRamon | 212712015 | Presentations, Speaker II & 12 | I) Write a two paragraph paper on yourunderstanding ofthe research questions and how they were addressed by this week's invited speaker2) Read one reference regarding a topic of research related to the research conducted by the faculty who will be giving the talk next week, read it and submit a summary | 3/4/2015 |
|  | 3/612015 | Spring Break | No Meeting |  |
| Week9Cbelsea | 3113/2015 | I) Discussion on possible researchmentors2) Establish goals and expectations withyour research mentor3) What makes a good poster | I) Identify the research mentor you wouldlike to work with and write a summary on their research. | 3/1 8/201 |
| Week 10 | 3/20/2015 | College of Science Research Day | I) Write a summary on 2 posterpresentations you liked and 2 poster presentations you disliked. Give reasonswhy. | 3/25/201' |
| Week II | 3127/201 5 | Undergraduate Research Symposium | I) Write a summary on 2 posterpresentations you liked and 2 poster presentations you disliked. Give reasonswhy. | 4/1/2015 |
| Week 12 | 4/3/2015 | GPSA Research Day | I ) Begin preparation for 5 min | 4/812015 |
|  | project. Submit an outline of presentation. |
| Week 13Ramon | 4/1012015 | I ) 5 min presentation on your researchtopic/ project! mentor2) Discuss expectations for the summer | None | 4/1 5/201 |
| Week 14 | 4/1712015 | Attend Honors Thesis Defense | None |  |
| Week 1 5 | 4/24/2015 | Attend Honors Thesis Defense | None |  |
| Week 16 | 5/112015 | Good Luck on your Finals!! | No Meeting |  |

presentation on your undergrad research

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