Biochemistry & Molecular Biology Graduate Program
Spring 2015

BMB 6195 Seminar, 1 Credit Hour
January 7, 2015 – April 24, 2015

Class Times:  Tuesday 2-4pm (practice)
              Friday noon – 2 pm Seminar
First Day of Class will be January 9, 2015

Location:  Basic Science Auditorium

Course Director:
Kay Choi, PhD, Associate Professor, Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, 6.614C Basic Science Building, Kay.Choi@utmb.edu, 409-747-1402
Anson Pierce, PhD, Assistant Professor, Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, 7.138G Medical Research Building, an2pierc@utmb.edu, 409-772-6779

Course Description:  The course provides practical training in seminar presentation skills, critical thinking, and peer evaluation. Students must register for the Seminar course (BMB 6195) in years 2, 3 and 4 (three consecutive years after they enter into the BMB graduate program). Each student will attend student seminars regularly and, in addition, each student will present one research seminar per year in their third and fourth years.

Grades:
Grades will be calculated based on the performance of the following:

- Seminar presentation (3rd yr students: 30 minute seminar; 4th yr students: 1 hour seminar)
- Written evaluations on each speaker – must be submitted Tuesday following seminar
- Participation in class discussions
- Attendance – allowed 1 unexcused absence and 1 excused absence

The grading may be subject to change at the discretion of the director, but final course grades will be determined using the GSBS grading scale:

90-100 = A
80-89 = B
70-79 = C
69 or below = F

Second year students will be given a grade of Satisfactory (S) or Unsatisfactory (U)

***Student end of course evaluations are required for all A/B/C/F-graded GSBS courses. Students are required to fill out the evaluations to receive a grade in the course. If the specified evaluation form is not received, an “I” Incomplete grade will be reported to the Office of Enrollment Services. If the course requirements are not completed within 30 days, the grade
automatically converts to an “F” Failure grade. The evaluations are anonymous and will be available to course directors only after grades are assigned.

**Excused Absences:** Attendance – allowed 1 unexcused absence and 1 excused absence

Since the course is highly interactive, attendance and participation are required. Students can be excused from graded assignments without penalty to their grade if the absence is within the attendance requirement. Additional absences will require special consideration at the discretion of the course director.

**Course Schedule:**
Each week there will be a practice session (Tuesday, 2-4pm) and 1 or 2 seminars (Friday, noon – 2pm) depending on total number of students.