
EEBL 610

First Year Graduate Seminar

Fall 2018; 1 credit hour
Wednesdays 9-9:50am
WFES 236

Course Description

Students attend and actively participate in a weekly conversation on completing a PhD degree and career planning with EEB core faculty and others. The goal of this course is to familiarize students with procedures and expectations for graduate school and with the opportunities available to them for research, education, and collegial interactions at TAMU; to foster collegial interaction among EEB students and faculty campus-wide; and to advise and inform students on career options, career strategies, and funding opportunities. This course will also facilitate and require preparation of a Sigma Xi Grants-in-Aid of Research proposal to guide students through the grant writing process.

Prerequisite: graduate classification.

E-mail will be the primary means of communication for the course.

Learning Outcomes

- Recognize the opportunities for education, research, collaboration, and other student involvement within the EEB program;
- Compare career paths in EEB including academic and non-academic positions;
- Network with professionals in the EEB field;
- Prepare and critically evaluate a fellowship or other grant proposal.

Course Requirements

- Attend all sessions. Absences for previously scheduled activities will only be excused if they are communicated in advance. See <http://student-rules.tamu.edu/rule07>.
- Participate actively in discussions among students and discussion leaders.
- Prepare a Sigma Xi Grants-in-Aid of Research proposal for critique by me, your faculty sponsor and/or other colleagues.

Grading

Pass/fail based on attendance and proposal submission. Three or more unexcused absences or failure to submit a timely proposal to me and your faculty sponsor without an appropriate justification will be grounds for failure.

Instructor

Dr. Jason P. Martina

Program Coordinator
Ecology and Evolutionary Biology
Applied Biodiversity Science
Email: jpmartina@tamu.edu
Office: 218 WFES
Phone: (979) 845-2114
Office hours: by appointment

ADA Policy Statement

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact Disability Services, currently located in the Disability Services building at the Student Services at White Creek complex on west campus or call 979-845-1637. For additional information, visit <http://disability.tamu.edu>.

Academic Integrity Statement

For additional information visit: <http://www.tamu.edu/aggiehonor>. Please pay close attention to the guidelines on avoiding plagiarism. "An Aggie does not lie, cheat, or steal or tolerate those who do"

Weekly Schedule (subject to change)

Lecture	Date	Faculty Leader	Topic
Graduate student opportunities			
1	29-Aug	EEB and EEBISO Students	Course intro; EEB student organization; ABS intro if time
2	5-Sep	Gil Rosenthal	Welcome to grad school (words of wisdom), Program Guidelines overview
3	12-Sep	Jason Martina	Sigma Xi Proposal outline; mental health issues in Grad School
4	19-Sep	Carolyn Jackson	Library resources and University Writing Center
5	26-Sep	Kevin Conway	Collections-based research
Funding and conducting research			
6	3-Oct	Michel Slotman	Grant opportunities and how to write grants
7	10-Oct	Jessica Light	Work-life balance/code of conduct
8	17-Oct	Raul Medina	Maximizing efficiency and welcoming collaborations
9	24-Oct	Jason Martina	Writing a Teaching Philosophy
10	31-Oct	Mary Wicksten	Procedural issues (IACUC, permits, lab safety)
Careers, writing, and reviewing			
11	7-Nov	Tom Lacher	Non-academic careers
12	14-Nov	Bill Rogers	Scientific publishing
13	21-Nov	No Class	Thanksgiving Break
14	28-Nov	Lisa Campbell (11:30)	Scientific reviewing

There will be NO FINAL EXAM for EEBL 610