Biology 431A
Seminar
Topic: Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs)
Spring
2012

Credit, 1 semester hour. **Prerequisites: S**enior standing. Corequisite: BIO 433.

Catalog CourseDescription: A weekly departmental seminar on current biological topics. Students will do an oral presentation on a selected topic.

Schedule: MW, 12:00 – 1:15 p.m., H100

Instructor: Theodore E. Snazelle, Ph.D.
Office - 109 Hederman Science Building
Telephone: 601-924-7959 (home--no calls after 9:00 p.m. or before 7:00 a.m.)
601-925-3339 (office – voice mail after several rings)
Email: snazelle@mc.edu
Homepage: http://www.mc.edu/faculty/snazelle (Highlight and CTRL + click to follow link)

Purpose: The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the impact of Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) on the human condition.

Reference Article: Hotez, Peter. 2009. Devastating global impact of neglected tropical diseases. Microbe 4:366 – 372.

Specific Learning Objectives:

The student will become familiar with a topic of current biological interest and will prepare and make a PowerPoint presentation on the topic.

The student will learn to ask intelligent questions of other students on their presentations.

Requirements: Students (working in pairs) will be assigned a neglected tropic disease on which to do research. Using PowerPoint, the student pair will prepare and make an original 10 - 15 minute presentation on their topic to the class. Each student will present the professor and all the other students in class with an abstract and bibliography on the seminar topic. Also, the student pair will prepare a 8½" X 11" poster advertising their presentation. This poster must be received by Dr. Snazelle no later than one week before the presentation. The PowerPoint presentation must be sent by e-mail to Dr. Snazelle no later than the Thursday before the presentation.

Grading: The seminar will be graded by using the attached rubric. There will be no penalty for missing one day of seminar presentations. Missing two days of seminar presentations will result in the final grade being lowered by one letter grade. Missing three days of seminar presentations will result in the final grade being lowered two letter grades. Missing four days of seminar presentations will result in the student receiving an "F" for the course. Note the following point penalties from your PowerPoint presentation scores:

> Failure to submit poster advertising your presentation to Dr. Snazelle no later than one week before the presentation is given – 5 points
> Failure to submit PowerPoint presentation no later than the Thursday before the presentation is given – 5 points
> Failure to distribute an abstract of your presentation to Dr. Snazelle and the other students on the day of your presentation – 5 points

Unless you have absence issues, your final grade will be based on your PowerPoint presentation score minus any points for the "failure" items above:
45 – 50 points, A
40 – 44 points, B
35 – 39 points, C
30 – 34 points, D
0 – 29 points, F

If you are present for ***all*** the student PowerPoint presentations, you will receive a 5 point bonus.

Academic Honesty Statement: See the Mississippi College Undergraduate Catalog or the Mississippi College Graduate Catalog for what the University considers to be academically dishonest, the student's responsibility and consequences for academic dishonesty.

Regarding Disabilities: If you are a student who needs special accommodations due to learning, physical, physiological, or other disabilities, please contact Dr. Morgan Bryant, Director, Student Counseling Services. [In order for a student to receive disability accommodations under Section 504 of the Americans with Disabilities Act, he or she must schedule an individual meeting with the Director of Student Counseling Services immediately upon recognition of their disability (if their disability is known they must come in before the semester begins or make an appointment immediately upon receipt of their syllabi for the new semester). The student must bring with them written documentation from a medical physician and/or licensed clinician that verifies their disability. If the student has received prior accommodations, they must bring written documentation of those accommodations (example Individualized Education Plan from the school system). Documentation must be current (within 3 years). The student must meet with SCS face-to face and also attend two (2) additional follow up meetings (one mid semester before or after midterm examinations and the last one at the end of the semester). Please note that the student may also schedule additional meetings as needed for support through SCS as they work with their professor throughout the semester. Note: Students must come in each semester to complete their Individualized Accommodation Plan (example: MC student completes fall

semester IAP plan and even if student is a continuing student for the spring semester they must come in again to complete their spring semester IAP plan). Student Counseling Services may be found in Alumni Hall Room #4 or may be contacted via email: mbryant@mc.edu or rward@mc.edu or by phone at 601-925-7791.

During the semester this course is taught, the professor reserves the right to make any changes in the syllabus deemed appropriate or necessary.

TURN OFF YOUR CELL PHONE!! During class, your cell phone must be turned off. Cell phones, iPhones, smart phones and other electronic devices are not allowed to be on the desk, in your hand, etc. while class is underway. These electronic devices are to be kept in your backpack, purse, etc. No listening to music while class is in session is allowed. Unless you are taking notes on your laptop, etc., turn it off and put it away.

Biology 431
PowerPoint Presentation Grading Rubric
Spring 2012

Speakers _____ **Date** _____
Topic _____

Criteria	Description			Score
Dress – 5 points	Slovenly dressed – T-shirt or tank top, jeans with holes or patches or shorts, shoes (open toes, no socks) – up to 2 points	Casually dressed – golf type shirt, chinos, athletic shoes (white or other color with or without stripes, socks) – 3 to 4 points	Business casual - ♂ (open collar dress shirt, Dockers-type slacks, dark shoes, dark socks); ♀ (slacks, blouse, dark shoes, etc.) – 5 points	
Presentation – 30 points	Poorly organized (too much material on slides, hard to see), presentation was read (word-for-word) – up to 22 points	Good organization (adequate material on slides, not hard to see), presentation sometimes was read (word-for-word) – 23 to 26 points	Excellent organization (key points on slides, easy to see); presentation, was not read - 27 to 30 points	
Visuals – 10 points	Few (0 to 3), clarity poor, not effectively used in presentation – up to 6 points	Several (4 – 5), clarity poor to good, sometimes effectively used in presentation– 7 to 8 to points	Adequate number (6 or more), clarity good, effectively used throughout presentation – 9 to 10 points	
Title, Outline & Bibliography Slides – 5 points	Missing - 0 points	One of the three slides missing – 3 points	All three slides present – 5 points	
50 pts total			Total Points	

Comments: _____

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