

# Graduate Colloquium in Biological Sciences

## BIOL 592

### Fall 2011

**Time:** Mondays 3:00 PM – 4:50 PM

**Location:** SL1105

**Faculty Coordinators:** Dr. Peter Minchin SL3313 650-2975 pminchi@siue.edu  
Dr. David Duvernell SL0325 650-3468 dduvern@siue.edu

#### **Course Objectives:**

1. To expose graduate students to professional presentations of biological information through a series of seminars by practicing scientists.
2. To have graduate students understand how to effectively present biological information through critique of seminars.

Beginning Fall 2011, graduate students are required to register for three semesters of BIOL 592: Graduate Colloquium.

#### **COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND POLICIES**

All graduate students are expected to attend at least eight research seminars over the course of the semester. All eight seminars may be selected from the ten seminars scheduled for Mondays in the Biological Sciences colloquium series at SIUE. Alternatively, graduate students may choose to attend research seminars held in other departments on the SIUE campus (e.g. chemistry and pharmacy have their own seminar series), or they may choose to attend seminars held at other university campuses (e.g. Washington University, Saint Louis University or University Missouri - St. Louis, for example). Students should complete a Seminar Evaluation Form (downloadable from Blackboard) during each seminar and be able to briefly summarize the content of the seminar. Seminar Evaluation Forms should be submitted to Dr. Minchin or Dr. Duvernell within one week of attending each seminar, and these forms will be used to credit students for seminar attendance.

**Seminar etiquette:** We expect you come to these seminars with the intention of learning something from each talk. Please be respectful to the speaker and members of the audience.

**No electronic devices** should be used during the seminar (including cell phones, iPods, laptops). These devices should be powered off on entering the seminar room. Other examples of inappropriate behavior include napping, chatting, reading and doing other work.

On two dates scheduled on the seminar calendar graduate students will meet in a location to be determined for discussion of seminars, including discussion of positive and negative aspects of seminars that students have attended. Please bring discussion ideas to these meeting times.

## Biological Sciences Colloquium Series Fall 2011 BIOL 592 Calendar

- August 22 Introduction
- August 29 **Wenyan Xiao**, Saint Louis University.  
"Epigenetic regulation of gene imprinting and seed development in *Arabidopsis*"
- September 5 Labor Day holiday – no seminar this week
- September 12 **Ed deWalt**, Illinois Natural History Survey, University of Illinois  
"Assessing immigration corridors using approximate Bayesian analysis for a midwestern stonefly, *Acroneuria frisoni* Stark & Brown (Plecoptera: Perlidae)"
- September 19 **Bob Ricklefs**, University of Missouri - St. Louis  
"Niche theory, neutral theory, and community assembly"
- September 26 **Cindy Vigueira**, Washington University  
"When good plants go bad: the evolution of weediness in red rice"
- October 3 **Jake Schaefer**, University of Southern Mississippi  
"Ecological relationships and evolutionary trajectories within the *Fundulus notatus* species complex"
- October 10 **Larry Zettler**, Illinois College  
"Orchid conservation: from Hawaii to Florida (and prairies in between)"
- October 17 **Sedonia Sipes**, Southern Illinois University Carbondale  
"Host plant selection in specialist bees: evolutionary and ecological patterns"
- October 24 **Diane Wood**, Southeast Missouri State University  
"...but I'm an aquatic ecologist"
- October 31 Graduate Student discussion of seminars
- November 7 **Sharon Deem**, Wildcare Institute, Saint Louis Zoo  
"The role of zoological institutions in conservation medicine"
- November 14 **Patrick Vigueira**, Washington University  
"The skinny on fatty acid synthesis in *Trypanosoma brucei*"
- November 21 Thanksgiving break – no seminar this week
- November 28 Student Presentations
- December 5 Student Presentations
- December 12 Graduate Student discussion of seminars

I have read the syllabus for BIOL 592 in fall 2011, and I understand and accept the policies and expectations.

Printed name \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_