Course Syllabus

Ethics in Life Science Research (Bi 610)

Course Information:

5:00-6:20 Wednesday September 27 - November 29

Course Objectives:

This course is intended to support the development of professional behavior of research scientists. It will cover mandated topics in responsible conduct of research as well as cultural values and behaviors important for developing a diverse and inclusive scientific community.

- Research scientists taking this course understand the formal requirements set in place by the NIH regarding research ethics. These include the policies regarding research misconduct, data management and research on human and animal subjects.

- The format of the class will be largely discussions informed by articles that cover real life scenarios related to that week's topic. Participants will be prepared to discuss the content of the article and engage in an open discussion about the complexity of these ethical and behavioral issues.

- Participants are encouraged to reflect upon real-life scenarios (privately or openly if they wish), and in cases where relevant, to strategize a plan to cope with the real-life issue.

Class Expectations:

This class is Pass/No pass.

To pass, you must:

- Attend every class. If you need to miss a class, contact me for special arrangements to make up material. Generally, this will involve writing a response to the discussion prompts from the class session.
- Complete the short reading and writing assignment before each class. Writing assignment is small, usually limited to one paragraph. These will be submitted on Canvas.
- Readings can be found under “Assignments” in Canvas.
The Course covers NIH Requirements for RCR Course

1https://rcs.uoregon.edu/content/responsible-conduct-research-training-and-education-plan/elements-RCR-training-planLinks to an external site.

Communication: All communication to you outside of class will take place via email. I will use the email registered to you by the University of Oregon. You may email me with questions or comments. Please send messages from your University of Oregon account and include “BI610” in the subject line. I will generally respond to email messages within 1-3 days. Class Courtesy: Kindly arrive in class on time. Please turn off cell phones during the class meeting times. Ask questions if you did not hear or understand something.

Classroom courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with differences of race, culture, religion, politics, sexual orientation, gender, gender variance, and nationalities. Class rosters are provided to the instructor with the students’ legal names. I will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternative name or gender pronoun. Please advise me of this preference early in the
quarter (or before) so that I may address you properly. Our classroom is a learning environment, and as such should be a safe, inclusive and respectful place. Disrespecting fellow students as well as combative approaches, tones and/or actions are not acceptable. Please make me aware if there are classroom dynamics that impede your full engagement.

Students with Disabilities: I believe strongly in creating inclusive learning environments. Please notify me if there are aspects of the instruction or design of this course that result in disability-related barriers to your participation. You are also encouraged to contact the Accessible Education Center in 164 Oregon Hall at 541-346-1155 or uoaec@uoregon.edu.