

Mondays, 4:30p.m. - 6:30 p.m. in York Hall 3010 (Some class meetings may be shorter. but all of them will start at 4:30.)

This course will help you to become more skillful with several different methods of communicating scientific information (well, really ANY kind of information, but we'll focus on scientific information, because as biology majors you will be taking a lot of science courses). Effective communication is **CRITICAL** to success in the biomedical sciences, and this class will improve your skills! Here's what we're going to do:

Date	Topic	What you'll do BEFORE this meeting
October 6	Introduction to this seminar-- what are the goals and what will you do?	Nothing; just come to class
October 13	How to succeed at UCSD--tips from BioScholars who've been at UCSD for awhile	Bring to class at least one question that you've been wondering about. Some members of the BioScholars Program will be on hand to offer advice and answer your questions.
October 20	How do you talk to a professor? (Either right after class or during office hours)	Attend an office hour of one of your professors. Before you go, make a list of questions you might want to ask (it can be a short list), and afterward write a brief description of how it went and what you learned. What was good, and what could have been better? We'll compare notes about the experience.
October 27	How to write great answers to exam questions (Hint: practice writing good <u>questions</u> before the exam)	Pick <u>one</u> topic from a class that you are currently taking. Write THREE questions that address the topic you chose: one that tests memorization , one that tests explanation , and one that requires application . By noon on Thursday, Oct. 16, send your questions to me attached to an e-mail message. Write good answers to each of your three questions, thinking about how the answers to the different kinds of questions differ, and bring them to class.

November 3	Constructing effective graphics-- diagrams, graphs, images (Do you know how to use a graphics program? Can you use Power Point EFFECTIVELY in a professional setting?)	Choose one BIOLOGICAL topic and illustrate it with an informative graph OR an informative diagram. Put it into a Power Point slide, and E-mail the PowerPoint file to me by noon on Friday, October 31 . You'll give a 1-minute tour guiding the class through your slide.
November 10	Presenting a talk using Power Point slides	Choose one BIOLOGICAL topic, and construct a 7-minute talk that is illustrated with no more than 4 Power Point slides. Either e-mail the file to me by noon on Friday, November 7, or bring it on a <u>functional</u> jump drive or on your computer (but only if you know how to make your computer communicate with an LCD projector!).
Nov. 17	More Power Point talks	Same as for November 10, but the deadline for e-mailing your Power Point file is noon on November 14.
Nov. 24	Presenting a "chalk talk"	Choose one topic related to biology and construct a 7-minute chalk talk (no slides, just a board and some chalk or markers). How is this different from a Power Point presentation?
December 1	More chalk talks; course evaluation; celebration!	Same as for November 24
December 8	Summing up and evaluations	List your most favorite and least favorite parts of the class, and briefly state your reasons

NOTICE! There are no midterms or final exams in this course! You participate in the class and show what you have learned by completing all of the assignments.