

BISP 194 Summer Session 2 2023
Evolutionary Developmental Biology

General Course Information

Instructor: Dr. Granton Jindal, gjindal@ucsd.edu

Class Meetings: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:30AM-10:50AM, York 3010

Course Description: In this course, we will learn about how new evolutionary phenotypes develop from mutations in the coding and noncoding regions of genomes by covering a mix of classic and current papers.

Prerequisites: This course focuses on reading, interpreting, and discussing primary research articles on evolutionary developmental biology. To understand the articles in the course, you will need a strong foundation in genetics and molecular biology. The prerequisite course, BICD 100, provides a solid foundation in genetics, and BIMM 100, while not a formal prerequisite, can also be helpful. If your performance in BICD 100 or BIMM 100 was not strong, you may have difficulty with this course.

Course Website: Course information and materials will be available on the course website, which can be accessed at <http://canvas.ucsd.edu>. Students can use their UCSD student email account login and password to access the website.

Health and Safety: It is important for all of us to work together to protect our health and the health of our community. In our classes, we will always carefully follow the UCSD health and safety guidelines. Specifically, everyone will complete a daily symptom survey on every day they come to class. If you have symptoms, you should not attend class. Everyone will participate in COVID-19 testing if warranted by their symptoms. If you receive a positive test result, you should not attend class until you are cleared by campus health. Masking is not required in classrooms, but it is recommended, and you are welcome to wear a mask in our class.

Oral Presentations: Dr. Jindal will lead the first class. For subsequent classes, a group of 2-3 students will work together to lead the class, so that each student in the class presents once. These students will collectively prepare and deliver an oral presentation based on

the article for each class, and these students will also lead the rest of the class in a discussion of the material.

Dr. Jindal will put together the presentation schedule and will assign each student to a paper, based on student interests. The presentation schedule will be available by August 10th, and there will be opportunities to reorganize the schedule should it be necessary for students to switch spots. Each group should consult with Dr. Jindal before their presentation for guidance on how to approach the material in their specific paper. These consultations can occur after the class prior to the presentation, in office hours, or by appointment.

Please note that oral presentations are intended to be delivered in person in York 3010. If circumstances should arise that would interfere with your ability to deliver your presentation in person, please contact Dr. Jindal as soon as possible so that we can arrange for you to Zoom into class for your portion of the presentation.

Participation in Discussion and Quizzes: In this course, we value active participation in class discussions. You can participate by asking questions, answering questions, or sharing your thoughts on the topic at hand. At a minimum, you must be present and attentive in class in order to receive points for participation.

You are not required to attend every class, but you can only miss up to three of the nine discussion classes without losing points. If you miss more than three classes, you can make up for the missed points by doing the following. If you want credit for the quiz, please take the quiz only using the paper and past quizzes as reference and self-time yourself for 15 minutes. Email your answers to Dr. Jindal within 48 hours of the missed class. After you finish taking the quiz, you can make up for the missed points in the discussion part of the class by watching the podcast of the missed class and writing a two-paragraph response to the presentation. In your response, you should discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the article (incorporating information from the presentation), as well as what you found particularly interesting about it (incorporating information from the presentation). Your response must be emailed to Dr. Jindal within 48 hours of the missed class.

Contact Information: If you have any questions about BISP194 that you have not been able to find the answers to in class or during office hours, you can email Dr. Jindal. Please include "BISP194" in the subject line of your email.

Office Hours: Dr. Jindal's office hours will be held from 3-3:30PM on each class day in Leichtag 405 (except on August 29th, when there will be no office hours).

Grading: Your grade will be based on your performance with our three major course components: (1) your oral presentation (classes 2-10), (2) your participation in class (classes 2-10), and (3) quizzes at the beginning of class (classes 2-10). Your final grade will be determined by what percentage of the total available points (300 points) you earn. Points are available as follows:

102 points for your oral presentation

90 points for quizzes in classes 2-10 (highest 6 of 9 quizzes are taken)

90 points for discussion participation (attained by participating in at least 6 classes)

18 points for metacognition exercise (attained by participating in at least 6 classes)

The following thresholds will be used to assign grades:

≥291 points (98%) A+

≥270 points (90%) A

≥255 points (85%) A-

≥245 points (81.67%) B+

≥235 points (78.33%) B

≥225 points (75%) B-

≥180 points (60%) C (C-, C or C+)

≥150 points (50%) D

Academic Integrity: Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated in this course.

According to UCSD policy, academic dishonesty includes:

- completing assignments for another student
- allowing another student to complete an assignment for you
- copying another student's work on an assignment
- allowing another student to copy your work on an assignment
- incorporating plagiarized material into an assignment

Any issues with academic dishonesty will be reported to the UCSD Academic Integrity Coordinator and the Dean of the student's college. Confirmed cases of academic dishonesty will result in the student receiving an F as their final grade and other disciplinary actions determined appropriate by the Academic Integrity Coordinator.