

**Important Note:** This syllabus, along with course assignments and due dates, are subject to change. It is the student's responsibility to check Canvas for corrections or updates to the syllabus. Any changes will be clearly noted in a course announcement or through email.

## **BISP194/BGGN281 Winter 2023**

### **Advanced Topics in Cellular & Developmental Biology "Scientific Breakthroughs of Diverse Origin" Thursday 12:30-1:50 pm (Remote)**

**Faculty: Professor Douglass Forbes**

Division of Biological Sciences,  
Section of Cell and Developmental Biology  
dforbes@ucsd.edu

**Goals:** In this class, we will focus on past and present scientific breakthroughs and the diversity of scientists that have pushed them forward. A major goal is to emphasize and celebrate the fact that diversity plays a huge role in modern day scientific research.

**Website:** The class website is located at CANVAS <https://canvas.ucsd.edu>

**Class will meet live by Zoom on Thursday 12:30-1:50pm each week. Invitations to those Zoom Chats should normally be visible now on your Canvas site.**

#### **Logistics and Requirements:**

We will approach science and diversity in multiple ways.

1) For many of the class periods, we will have guest speakers, primarily from the Biological Sciences department, who will describe their path to science, their challenges, and some of their research. This will be followed by a question and answer session and/or discussion with students participating in the discussion. (Depending on the speaker, students may be asked to read a review or short paper before coming to class so that everybody can participate in the discussion.) However, much of our discussion can be on the social or other challenges they faced. Synchronous class presence is required for this; recorded lectures will not be provided.

**IMPORTANT:** You are expected to participate in questions and discussion during and/or after the speaker's presentation

2) Each student will be required to turn in a 1-2 page on: (a) the personal background and (b) a short and interesting overview of the research progress of a diverse contributor to biological science. The writeup is due by March 4, i.e., the end of the 8<sup>th</sup> week of class. Areas and scientists of interest could, for example, include: (1) a key diverse contributor to the identification of the AIDS virus, Flossie Wong-Staal, (2) the prime discoverer of autophagy (or how cells rid themselves of aging components), Yoshinori Ohsumi, (3) a major diverse expert in the phage therapy pioneered to fight drug-resistant bacterial infections, Paul Turner, or (4) one of the visionaries of RNA vaccine technology used to fight COVID-19. We will have a signup sheet later in the quarter so people don't overlap on topics.

3) I am at present signing up outside speakers. In addition to the 5-6 outside speakers, I will give lectures on careers and related matters.

4) I may at times send out links to videos or podcasts that inspire me.

### **Remote Instruction :**

This particular Bio194/Bio281 course is designated Remote for the whole quarter.

### **Course Objectives:**

UCSD is very diverse, as is San Diego, California, and the U.S. itself. The main objective of this course is to reveal just how diverse science has been and is today -- so that we all realize that we are not "other", not "imposters", but the essential and amazing keys to the future of science, health, and survival.

### **Grading Policy:**

No midterm and no final exams.

Attendance at each lecture will count as 5% (5% x 10 lectures = 50% total).

Grades will be determined by: (a) attendance (50%), (b) participation in discussion, including asking questions during and after the presentation each week (25%), and (c) a one-two page writeup on a diverse scientist of your choice, submitted by March 5, the end of week 8 (25%).

A: 90% or higher

B: 70-89%

C: 50-69%

### **Course Policies**

*Classroom conduct:* While all the course materials will be offered on-line rather than in the classroom setting, general policies remain the same. Please refrain from all unnecessary use of electronics, side

conversations, and multi-tasking including eating, newspaper reading during the live sessions. Please turn off your cell phones and be respectful of classmates. You are invited to participate in creating an environment of mutual respect and intellectual productivity by listening and speaking with an open mind.

*Accommodations:* Anyone in need of classroom accommodations for a disability is encouraged to contact the Office for Students with Disabilities and should also inform me as soon as possible.

*Academic integrity:* Academic Integrity is expected of everyone at UC San Diego. This means that you must be honest, fair, responsible, respectful, and trustworthy in all of your actions. Lying, cheating, or any other forms of dishonesty will not be tolerated because they undermine learning and the University's ability to certify students' knowledge and abilities. Thus, any attempt to get, or help another get, a grade by cheating, lying or dishonesty will be reported to the Academic Integrity Office and will result in sanctions. Sanctions can include an F in the class and suspension or dismissal from the University. So, think carefully before you act. Before you act, ask yourself the following questions: a) is my action honest, fair, respectful, responsible, and trustworthy, and b) is my action authorized by the instructor? If you are unsure, don't ask a friend, ask your instructor, instructional assistant, or the Academic Integrity Office. You can learn more about academic integrity at [academicintegrity.ucsd.edu](http://academicintegrity.ucsd.edu). (Source: Bertram Gallant, T. (2017). *Teaching for integrity*. UC San Diego Academic Integrity Office.)

Absolutely no cheating will be tolerated. All suspicions of integrity violation will be reported to the Academic Integrity Office according to university policy. The Policy on Integrity of Scholarship ([academicintegrity.ucsd.edu](http://academicintegrity.ucsd.edu)) list some of the standards by which you are expected to complete your academic work, but your good ethical judgment (or asking me for advice) is also expected as we cannot list every behavior that is unethical or not in the spirit of academic integrity.

Those students found to have committed academic misconduct will face administrative sanctions imposed by their college's Dean of Student Affairs and academic sanctions imposed by me. Students can also face suspension and dismissal from the University; those sanctions are not at my discretion. Academic sanctions can range from an F on the assignment to an F in the class. The appropriate sanctions are determined by the egregiousness of the Policy violation. Students who assist in or are complicit with cheating could also be in violation of the Policy. Thus, students who become aware of their peers either facilitating academic misconduct or committing it should report their suspicions to me for investigation.

**For further information:** [https://academicintegrity.ucsd.edu/index\\_old.html](https://academicintegrity.ucsd.edu/index_old.html)

### **Netiquette:**

Netiquette is a set of rules for behaving properly online. Your instructor and fellow students wish to foster a safe online learning environment. All opinions and experiences, no matter how different or controversial they may be perceived, must be respected in the tolerant spirit of academic discourse. You are encouraged to comment, question, or critique an idea, but you are not to attack an individual. Working as a community of learners, we can build a polite and respectful course community. The following netiquette tips will enhance the learning experience for everyone in the course:

- Do not dominate any discussion.
- Give other students the opportunity to join in the discussion.
- Do not use offensive language. Present ideas appropriately.
- Be cautious in using Internet language. For example, do not capitalize all letters since this suggests shouting.
- Popular emoticons can be helpful to convey your tone but do not overdo or overuse them.
- Avoid using vernacular and/or slang language. This could possibly lead to misinterpretation.
- Never make fun of someone's ability to read or write.
- Share tips with other students.
- Keep an "open-mind" and be willing to express even your minority opinion. Minority opinions have to be respected.
- Think and edit before you push the "Send" button.
- Do not hesitate to ask for feedback.
- Using humor is acceptable

Adapted from:

Mintu-Wimsatt, A., Kernek, C., & Lozada, H. R. (2010). Netiquette: Make it part of your syllabus. *Journal of Online Learning and Teaching*, 6(1). Retrieved from [http://jolt.merlot.org/vol6no1/mintu-wimsatt\\_0310.htm](http://jolt.merlot.org/vol6no1/mintu-wimsatt_0310.htm)

## **Student Resources**

### **Academic Support:**

UC San Diego Library

- Ask a Librarian: <https://library.ucsd.edu/ask-us/>
- Library Help: <https://library.ucsd.edu/ask-us/triton-ed.html>

Teaching + Learning Commons

- Writing Hub: <https://writinghub.ucsd.edu/>  
Improve writing skills and connect with a peer writing mentor
- Academic Achievement Hub: <https://aah.ucsd.edu/>  
Supplemental instruction, content tutoring and learning strategy tutoring

Office of Academic Support & Instructional Services (OASIS):

<https://oasis.ucsd.edu/> Intellectual and personal development support

Student Success Coaching Program: <https://successcoaching.ucsd.edu/>

Peer mentor program that includes information, resources, and support in meeting your goals

## **Additional Student Resources for Your Personal Well-Being**

The Hub Basic Needs

The Hub addresses basic needs insecurities you might face. They provide

necessary resources, break stigma surrounding basic needs, and foster a sense of belonging for every student. The Hub builds community to help one another.  
<https://basicneeds.ucsd.edu/> | [basicneeds@ucsd.edu](mailto:basicneeds@ucsd.edu) | (858) 246-2632

**Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)**

Services and programs that enhance the college experience, promote academic success, and help you develop effective coping skills.  
<https://wellness.ucsd.edu/caps/> | (858) 534-3755

**CARE at the Sexual Assault Resource Center**

<https://care.ucsd.edu> | [sarc@ucsd.edu](mailto:sarc@ucsd.edu) | (858) 534-5793

**Office for the Prevention of Harassment & Discrimination (for Students)**

[https://ophd.ucsd.edu/policies-procedures/polpro\\_student.html](https://ophd.ucsd.edu/policies-procedures/polpro_student.html)

Undocumented Student Services: <https://uss.ucsd.edu/>

**Triton Concern Line: (858) 246-1111**

<http://blink.ucsd.edu/go/students-of-concern>  
Report students of concern