

GENETICAL ETHICS ZOO 4926

Course Description

Presentation and critical discussion of relevant topics pertaining to ethics, science policy, and translation in genetics research. Responsible conduct of research is also covered. Students are expected to have completed readings on the date assigned, email discussion questions to the instructor prior to class meeting time, and to bring their insights to class discussion. Be prepared to provide both scientific and social critiques of the readings. The Team Projects will be discussed by the instructors and may consist of an informative social networking site, podcast, Wikipedia entry, letter to the editor of a journal (e.g. *Nature Reviews Genetics*, *Science*, *Trends in Genetics*, etc.), YouTube video, or similar public forum.

Credit Hours-1

Pre-requisites and Co-requisites: consent of instructors/department controlled; PCB 3063 or equivalent.

Instructor Information

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Program Assistant Information

Cheri Knecht

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Course Meeting Time: Thursday 7th period (1:55-2:45pm)

Course Meeting Location(s): N1-07 College of Medicine

Course Website

Course materials and related information will be posted on the course E-Learning (Sakai) website at <http://lss.at.ufl.edu>. You are responsible for all announcements

made in class and/or posted on the course website for this course as well as instructions sent to your UF e-mail address.

Grading

Class participation means actively and critically engaging the readings, and bringing your perspective and questions to the class. The blog is a great place to get discussion started, and to ask discussion leader(s) for suggestions for current, related literature. Relevant blog posts are required 24 hours prior to class each week. Current class participation grades will be available weekly on Sakai.

Grading schema, graduate section:

20% of the final grade comes from student presentation

30% of the final grade comes from class participation

30% of the final grade comes from the Team Projects

20% of the final grade comes from web-based participation (graduate students are required to watch on-line lectures on NIH recommended topics related to responsible conduct of research)

Attendance Policy: attendance is required.

Grade Curve Policy: this course will not have a curve.

Course Outline (topics covered by week or by class period)

Week	Date	General Topic	Responsible Conduct of Research topic
1	8/28	Introduction to Ethics and Policy	
2	9/4	Research Integrity: The Hwang Woo Suk Stem Cell Episode	Research Misconduct Authorship and Publication Peer Review
3	9/11	Scientific Research and Public Decision-making	
4	9/18	History of Eugenics	
5	9/25	Race, Ethnicity, and Identity in Genetics Research	Human subjects research with populations and vulnerable groups
6	10/2	Genetic Testing, Genetic Privacy	
7	10/9	Genetic Selection: Present Day	

8	10/16	Genetic Selection: the Future	
9	10/23	Genetics and Intellectual Property (Patenting Life)	Data Management Practices Mentor and Trainee Responsibilities Collaborative Research
10	10/30	Scientific Research and Conflicts of Interest	The Protection of Human Subjects Conflicts of Interest
11	11/06	Chimeras	Ethical Issues in Research with Animals
12	11/13	Team Project Presentations	
13	11/20	Team Project Presentations	
14	12/5	Genetics and Biological Warfare	Dual-Use Technologies

Expectations:

All students are expected to have completed readings before the date assigned, post discussion questions to the website at least 24 hours prior to class meeting time, and to bring their insights to class discussion. Be prepared to provide both scientific and social critiques of the readings.

The grade for your presentation is based in part on your preparation for the presentation, and in part on your ability to involve your teammates in discussion.

Grades for the Team Projects will be assigned by the instructor with input from the students (*i.e.* you will evaluate each other's projects). The subject areas are open: anything related to ethics and genetics is fair game. Here are some milestones for the projects. The instructors will provide feedback after each milestone. Failure to complete milestones on time will impact your grade (successful milestone completion = 10% of the Team Project grade)

- Communicate team composition and topic (2 February)
- Select feasible venue/medium for team project; explain and provide rationale for your choice and demonstrate that you have or can acquire the skills to execute the project as described (23 February)
- Detailed outline of what your project will consist of (*i.e.*, map of website, outline of article, *etc.*; 16 March)
- Completed projects will be presented 13 and 20 April (random selection for

presentation date)

Grading Scale

Point Range (%)	Letter Grade	GPA equivalent
≥ 90.00	A	4.0
86.7 – 89.9	A-	3.67
83.3 – 86.6	B+	3.33
80.0 – 83.2	B	3.0
76.7 – 79.9	B-	2.67
73.3 – 76.6	C+	2.33
70.0 – 73.2	C	2.0
66.7 – 69.9	C-	1.67
63.3 – 66.6	D+	1.33
60.0 – 56.7	D	1.0
56.7 – 53.3	D-	0.67
< 53.3	E	0

Note that a “C-” will not be a qualifying grade for critical tracking courses. In order to graduate, students must have an overall GPA and an upper-division GPA of 2.0 or better (C or better). Note: a C- average is equivalent to a GPA of 1.67, and therefore, it does not satisfy this graduation requirement. For more information on grades and grading policies, please visit:

<http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/regulationgrades.html>

UF Counseling Services

- Resources are available on-campus for students having personal problems or lacking clear career and academic goals. The resources include:
 - UF Counseling & Wellness Center, 3190 Radio Rd, 392-1575, psychological and psychiatric services.
 - Career Resource Center, Reitz Union, 392-1601, career and job search services.
- Many students experience test anxiety and other stress related problems. “A Self Help Guide for Students” is available through the Counseling Center (301 Peabody Hall, 392-1575) and at their web site: <http://www.counsel.ufl.edu/>.

Honesty Policy

- All students registered at the University of Florida have agreed to comply with the following statement: “I understand that the University of Florida expects its students to be honest in all their academic work. I agree to adhere to this commitment to academic honesty and understand that my failure to comply with

this commitment may result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from the University.”

- In addition, on all work submitted for credit the following pledge is either required or implied: “*On my honor I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.*”
- If you witness any instances of academic dishonesty in this class, please notify the instructor or contact the Student Honor Court (392-1631) or Cheating Hotline (392-6999). For additional information on Academic Honesty, please refer to the University of Florida Academic Honesty Guidelines at:
<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial/procedures/academicguide.html>.

Accommodation for Students with Disabilities

- Students who will require a classroom accommodation for a disability must contact the Dean of Students Office of Disability Resources, in Peabody 202 (phone: 352-392-1261). Please see the University of Florida Disability Resources website for more information at: <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drp/services/>.
- It is the policy of the University of Florida that the student, not the instructor, is responsible for arranging accommodations when needed. Once notification is complete, the Dean of Students Office of Disability Resources will work with the instructor to accommodate the student.

Software Use: All faculty, staff and student of the University are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against University policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate.