

Broader Impacts of Science on Society

BSC 6038 (section 082A) & GLY 6932 (section 0846)

Fall 2017 Syllabus

CATALOG DESCRIPTION

There is an increasing emphasis on the relevance of what a scientist does and how we impact society in general. This is manifested in many ways, for example, NSF now requires “Broader Impact” statements in grant proposals and explicit plans for how these kinds of activities will be accomplished. This course will explore ways in which scientists can increase impact, particularly to society at large. During this seminar-format course, students will engage in active participation and discussion. The beginning of the course will feature presentations by the instructor and invited speakers, and preparations for the class project(s). The remainder of the course will primarily be driven by students’ interests.

LEARNING GOALS

By the end of the course, the student will be able to:

- Better understand the landscape of NSF’s Broader Impact review criteria;
- evaluate broader impacts plans from other researchers;
- design many types of broader impacts activities at UF; and
- develop the tools needed to conduct broader impact activities in the future.

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Dr. Bruce MacFadden

Distinguished Professor and Curator

FLMNH (Florida Museum of Natural History)

Office: Rm 218 Dickinson Hall

Office Hours: Typically after class, or by appointment

Telephone: (352) 273-1937

Email: bmacfadd@flmnh.ufl.edu

CLASS LOCATION

Currently scheduled for Frazier Rogers 0106, but this may be subject to change. If so, the Instructor will notify by email the students registered.

CLASS DATE & TIME

Thursdays, periods 4 and 5 (10:40 am to 12:35 pm). First class on 24th August; last class on 30 November 2017.

CLASS FORMAT

Class periods will mostly be devoted to presentations and discussions (e.g., of readings). The last class will be devoted to students’ final project presentations.

CLASS DEMEANOR

Students are expected to be to class on time and behave in a manner that is respectful to the instructor and to fellow students. Please do not use of cell phones and restrict eating to outside of the classroom. Opinions held by other students should be respected in discussion, and conversations that do not contribute to the discussion should be held at minimum, if at all.

MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES FEES

There are no additional fees for this course.

ATTENDANCE AND MAKE-UP ASSIGNMENTS

Because this is a student-focused course, attendance is required and is part of the final grade (see below).

Other requirements for class attendance, assignments, and related matters are consistent with university policies that can be found at: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

SCHEDULE (Subject to Change)

Week	Date	Topic
1	Aug 24	Organizational; Goals; Topics; Introduction to BI
2	Aug 31	TBD
3	Sep 7	TBD
4	Sep 14	TBD
5	Sep 21	TBD
6	Sep 28	TBD
7	Oct 5	Guest presentation
8	Oct 12	Student presentations I
9	Oct 19	Student presentations II
10	Oct 26	Student presentations III
11	Nov 2	Student presentations IV
12	Nov 9	Student presentations V
13	Nov 16	Student presentations VI
14	Nov 23	No Class – Thanksgiving Holiday
15	Nov 30	Final project presentations

EVALUATION—Point Basis

Class Participation: 50%

Class presentation: 20%

Final project: 30%

GRADING SCALE

A: 93-100

A-: 90-<93

B+: 88-<90

B: 83-<88

B-: 80-<83

C+: 78-<80

C: 73-<78

C-: 70-<73

D: 60-<70

DEFINITION OF CLASS PARTICIPATION (SEE EVALUATION ABOVE)

Participation in class represents half of the points of the course assessment. This will require:

- (1) being present in class for the entire period;
- (2) having at least one question written down about the week's assignment; and
- (3) active participation, i.e., discussing assignment or asking question(s) in class.

COURSE EVALUATIONS

Evaluations of the instructor are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at: <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/>
Summary results of these assessments are available to students at: <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>

DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible.

UF COUNSELING RESOURCES

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/>.

TOLERANCE POLICY

The University of Florida policy on Discrimination and Harassment (<http://hr.ufl.edu/manager-resources/policies-2/sexual-harassment/>) will be adhered to strictly. Any student who believes s/he has been the subject of discrimination or harassment based upon race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status can make a formal complaint report to the Institutional Equity and Diversity officer and/or to the Dean of Students Office/Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution (DSO/SCCR). Resources and reporting options can be found online at <https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/resources/victims/>

DISCLAIMER

This syllabus and course requirements are subject to change. If changes occur, these will be communicated to the students.