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Spring 2-1-2018

### BIOB 547.01A: Experimental Molecular, Cellular, and Chemical Biology

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#### Recommended Citation

Voronina, Ekaterina, "BIOB 547.01A: Experimental Molecular, Cellular, and Chemical Biology" (2018).

*University of Montana Course Syllabi*. 7516.

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**BIOB 547/ CRN 72283; BCH 547/CRN 72385**  
**EXPERIMENTAL MOLECULAR, CELLULAR & CHEMICAL**  
**BIOLOGY, FALL/SPRING TERM 2017/2018**

**Instructor:** Dr. Ekaterina Voronina; email: [ekaterina.voronina@umontana.edu](mailto:ekaterina.voronina@umontana.edu)  
Office: ISB 217; 243-4254  
**Meetings:** Mondays, 12:00-12:50 p.m., Skaggs Building Rm. 169

## **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course is intended to function as a weekly research presentation forum for the graduate students in Molecular and Biomedical Sciences graduate umbrella program. Although one faculty member will serve as the official “instructor”, numerous faculty will participate weekly. Exchanges among graduate students and between faculty/students will provide opportunities for constructive criticism and assistance with planning, interpreting and presenting the students’ current research projects.

This course is required element for graduate students in a number of programs, and it is hoped that the course will have a “galvanizing” effect, bringing together students and faculty with very diverse research interests.

## **COURSE EXPECTATIONS**

Each participating student will be expected to attend all meetings as well as to present their own work and serve as “discussant” to another students’ presentation once per academic year.

1. Present your work in progress. This will involve giving an approximately 40-minute presentation on your own experimental work (leaving 10 minutes for questions or interruptions). Your talk should include the following: 1) background information needed to understand the topic, 2) motivation for doing the experiments (i.e. describe the "hole" in our understanding that you are trying to fill and why it is important), 3) explain the experiments and results, and 4) summarize conclusions, interpretations and future directions. First-year students and/or students who do not yet have an experimental research project may choose to present a published research paper related to their current lab's research. Alternatively they could present their undergraduate research if relevant. This would follow the same format.
2. Serve as discussant. This means you will introduce the speaker, giving an idea of their educational background, which lab they work in and for how long, and the title of their talk. You will also be responsible for calling on people and facilitating the discussion.
3. Participate in the discussion. Ask questions and show some enthusiasm. Fill out an evaluation so that the speaker gets some feedback about how to improve their presentation skills.
4. Sign the class roster so that we have a record of your attendance.

Grading: None. This course is offered on a pass/fail basis.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES. THE STUDENTS WILL DEMONSTRATE AN ABILITY TO:**

1. Use oral presentation format to explain their research to broad audiences.
2. Assess peer presentations, ask questions and provide feedback on the presentations.
3. Maintain high level of academic conversation by engaging in constructive discussion.

**STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:**

Students with disabilities may request reasonable modifications by contacting Dr. Voronina. The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction for students with disabilities in collaboration with instructors and Disability Services for Students, which is located in Lommasson Center 154. The University does not permit fundamental alterations of academic standards or retroactive modifications.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

What degree program are you in and what is your topic?

\_\_\_\_\_

Please look carefully at the dates available for your class discussion/presentation. Indicate your top choices of dates for presenting, and any dates you prefer not to present.

Also indicate any dates that you absolutely cannot do the presentation. I will try to accommodate your preferences as much as possible

## Presentation Evaluation Form

Speaker's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Some of the aspects important to a good presentation include (but are not limited to): quality and clarity of slides, clarity of speaker's voice, pace and manner, a logical organization of the talk, quality and quantity of background information and justification for the work, clear explanations of experiments and techniques, quality and quantity of critical analysis, sufficient summary and future directions, and the speaker's handling of questions and discussion

In my opinion, the speaker did a good job on the following aspects of the talk:

In my opinion, the presentation could have been improved in the following ways:

