BMI 553/653
Readings in Bioinformatics and Computational Biology
SPRING 2016
One Credit Hour
Tuesdays from 2 to 3pm
BICC 124
“Landscape of Precision Medicine Clinical Trials”

COURSE DESCRIPTION
BMI 553/653 is a weekly reading seminar in which the subject area is selected each year based on current topics in Bioinformatics and Computational Biology and analytics – either new methodology or new applications of existing methodology. The emphasis this quarter is on the “Landscape of Precision Medicine Clinical Trials”. We will focus on the computational and analytical approaches, challenges and opportunities through a series of use cases.

Prerequisites: Acceptance into the DMICE BCB track or instructor permission.

INSTRUCTOR:
Shannon K. McWeeney, Ph.D., Professor and Division Head
Division of Bioinformatics and Computational Biology
Department of Medical Informatics and Clinical Epidemiology.
E-mail: mcweeney@ohsu.edu
Office hours: By appointment

TEXTBOOKS (REQUIRED):

In addition, we will cover relevant current literature based on course topic (weekly assignments).

COURSE GRADING POLICY:
This course is given for a letter grade. Overall performance in the course is based on: Class Attendance (20%), Class Participation (50%), and Individual Presentation (30%). Grading of Individual Presentations will be based on: (1) Mastery of article and its context in the field (i.e., level of preparation), (2) Presentation materials, and (3) Presentation style including ability to both answer questions and direct discussion.
Grades are based on the following criteria:
A 93-100
A- 90-92.99
B+ 87-89.99
B 83-86.99
B- 80-82.99
C+ 77-79.99
C 73-76.99
C- 70-72.99
F <70

Graduate Studies in the OHSU School of Medicine is committed to providing grades to students in a timely manner. Course instructors will provide students with information in writing at the beginning of each course that describes the grading policies and procedures including but not limited to evaluation criteria, expected time needed to grade individual student examinations and type of feedback they will provide.

Class grades are due to the Registrar by the Friday following the week of finals. However, on those occasions when a grade has not been submitted by the deadline, the following procedure shall be followed:

1) The Department¹/Program Coordinator² will immediately contact the Instructor requesting the missing grade, with a copy to the Program Director and Registrar.

2) If the grade is still overdue by the end of next week, the Department¹
/Program Coordinator² will email the Department Chair directly, with a copy to the Instructor and Program Director requesting resolution of the missing grade.

3) If, after an additional week the grade is still outstanding, the student or Department¹/Program Coordinator² may petition the Office of Graduate students for final resolution.

¹ For courses that are run by a specific department.
² For the conjoined courses (course number is preceded by CON_ that are run by Graduate Studies.

ACADEMIC HONESTY:
Course participants are expected to maintain academic honesty in their course work. Participants should refrain from seeking published solutions to any assignments. Literature and resources (including Internet resources) employed in fulfilling assignments must be cited. See http://www.ohsu.edu/dmice/enrolled/plag.shtml for details.
In an effort to uphold the principles and practice of academic honesty, faculty members at OHSU may use originality checking systems such as Turnitin to compare a student’s submitted work against multiple sources.
COPYRIGHT INFORMATION
Every reasonable effort has been made to protect the copyright requirements of materials used in this course. Class participants are warned not to copy, audio, or videotape in violation of copyright laws. Journal articles will be kept on reserve at the library or online for student access. Copyright law does allow for making one personal copy of each article from the original article. This limit also applies to electronic sources.

To comply with the fair use doctrine of the US copyright law, Sakai course sites close three weeks after grades are posted with the Registrar. Please be sure to download all course material you wish to keep before this time as you will have no further access to your courses.

DMICE COMMUNICATION POLICY
1. If the syllabus directs the student to contact the TA before contacting the instructor, the student should do so. Otherwise, the student should contact the instructor and allow 2 business days (not including weekends) for a response.
2. If the student does not receive a response from the instructor within 2 business days, s/he should contact the TA (if there is one). When contacting the TA s/he should cc the instructor and Diane Doctor at doctord@ohsu.edu.
3. If a student does not receive a response from the TA within 1 business day (not including weekends), s/he should contact Diane Doctor at doctord@ohsu.edu and cc the instructor and the TA.
4. If Diane does not reply within 1 business day (not including weekends), the student should contact Andrea Ilg at ilgan@ohsu.edu.
5. Students having difficulties with Sakai should contact the Sakai Help Desk at sakai@ohsu.edu or at (877) 972-5249. Sakai help is available M-F from 8am to 9 pm and weekends from Noon to 5pm. Do not contact the instructor.

SPECIAL NEEDS:
Our program is committed to all students achieving their potential. If you have a disability or think you may have a disability (physical, learning, hearing, vision, psychological) which may need a reasonable accommodation please contact Student Access at (503) 494-0082 or e-mail at orchards@ohsu.edu to discuss your needs. You can also find more information at http://www.ohsu.edu/student-access. Because accommodations can take time to implement, it is important to have this discussion as soon as possible. All information regarding a student’s disability is kept in accordance with relevant state and federal laws.

COURSE COORDINATION:
The Sakai course site will be the central location for the distribution of course materials and assignment listing.
COURSE OBJECTIVES:
- To provide exposure to current topics in computational biology, bioinformatics and analytics via the primary literature;
- To emphasize critical thinking and synthesis in the participants;
- To improve oral and written presentation materials/skills.
- To improve the ability to communicate scientific topics without jargon to diverse audience.

PRESENTER EXPECTATIONS
- Presenter has thoroughly read assigned article and identified relevant reviews/background for class prior to week of presentation
- Presenter will contact Instructor to clarify any questions or issues prior to week of presentation
- Presenter has prepared slides/ handouts that are clear and concise. Content should include (1) relevant background; (2) key objectives and findings of paper; (3) Assessment of Strengths, Weaknesses and Opportunities.
- Presenter should be able to briefly describe all figures and tables.

COURSE OUTLINE
Week 1-2: Overview / Introduction to Topic area (Topics Assigned)
Week 3-10: Student Presentations.

USE OF SAKAI
This course will have an online component, which can be accessed through Sakai, OHSU's online course management system. For any technical questions or if you need help logging in, please contact the Sakai Help Desk.

Hours: Sakai Help Desk is available Mon – Fri, 8 am – 9 pm and weekends 12 pm – 5 pm, Pacific Time.
Contact Information:
(Toll-free) 877-972-5249
(Web) http://atech.ohsu.edu/help
(Email) sakai@ohsu.edu