Cell 799-01 Research Component (Research Students, Spring 10)

Course Director:  Dr. Fiona Inglis
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Office hours: by appointment.

Course Objectives:
For students to participate in a research project and learn cell and molecular based techniques, which they will use to answer questions in an investigative laboratory setting.

Learning Outcomes:
Following participation in this course, students will:
- have developed an understanding of scientific method in a laboratory setting.
- be able to describe in detail a scientific question.
- be able to describe in detail methodologies employed to answer the question.

Grading:
40% - Research Hours Spent in Lab: For Masters students doing research, rather than Service Learning at a clinical site, 50% of your grade will be determined by your level of participation in your research project. Students will be expected to spend a minimum of 50 hours in the lab over the semester. Each student will arrange their lab schedule with the faculty member in whose lab they are working.

30% - Email Journal: A weekly journal should be sent to Dr. Inglis (at inglis@tulane.edu). Please include in your journal entry what you are working that week in the lab, how you are progressing in your course work, result recent exam scores, etc., any problems you are having either in class or in your lab project, anything else you think it is important for Dr. Inglis (and/or Dr. Grisbaum) to be aware of (i.e., frustrations, problems, emotional issues). If you have made a significant breakthrough, for example, a successful result in the laboratory, or a

Journal entries must be received each Friday. For each day the journal is late, it will be dropped a letter grade. For the Spring (2010) semester, the first journal assignment is due on Friday, January 15th and the last one will be due Friday April 23rd. Each journal entry is due by email to Dr. Inglis (inglis@tulane.edu) every Friday by 5 pm.

Please note: No journal entries are due on the following dates:
Friday Feb. 19th (Week of Mardi Gras).
Friday April 2nd (Spring Break).

30% - Reflection Paper: A final project will be due in the form of a paper (5 pages, double-spaced) in which you report on the background of your research problem, the question you asked, the techniques used, and the progress made in your research project. The paper should be written as much as possible in the format of a scientific article (i.e. Introduction, Methods, Results including Figures, and a brief Discussion of the relevance of your findings). For the Fall (2009) semester, papers are due Friday April 23rd.