Human Biology
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

HMB396Y – International Research Project in Human Biology

Description:

Your individual, independent research project is supervised by a faculty member at either Shandong University (Shandong) or National Chaio-Tung University (Taiwan). This unique opportunity to conduct a lab-based research project is open to students in any Human Biology program. In each laboratory, students will have the opportunity to learn the techniques required for the specific research project. Researchers are currently working in the areas of cellular and molecular biology, signal transduction, neuroscience, microbiology and infectious diseases, cancer research, immunology, bioinformatics, system biology, computational biology, nano-biotechnology, nano-medicine and drug delivery, cellular imaging, bio-electronics and bio-fuel.

Prerequisites:

At least 8.5 FCEs including relevant courses in human biology.

Readings:

There are no required textbooks for this course. Readings will consist of journal articles and other documents related to the research project.

Course Assessment	**Weight of Assessment**
Weekly Journal Club. Students will be taught how to research scientific articles on the web, and how to prepare and give a scientific presentation in class. Students will feedback about their presentations. Each student will do one presentation throughout the program.	**35% of total mark**
Lab Performance • Bench work/Interview skills • Organization/Productivity/Teamwork • Data analysis/Industriousness	**15% of total mark**
Final Report **(see attached rubric. Submitted to UofT and Turnitin.com and graded by UofT Faculty)** **Research paper due date:** **Shandong program: August 12** **Taiwan program: August 19**	**50% of total mark**

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HMB396Y Final Report Rubric

Student:		**Course**	
Supervisor:		**Date**	

Content	Grade out of 20
Introduction/Literature review – Thorough summary of background information to justify current project. Synthesis and evaluation of ideas rather than simply rehash. Most Relevant info, start general, funnel to specific, overall completeness (including all topics/points needed to understand project. Ends with clear research statements, justification and significance (why important to do project)	
Materials and Methods - enough to replicate, appropriate citations if necessary, clear understanding of techniques and technical language	
Results- written description with well-constructed/ appropriate figures/tables; labeled completely and correctly; appropriate analysis completed (eg. stats, controls)	
Discussion - major results interpreted, confounds/limitations; significance, future directions	
Style - Complete/Concise/Accurate - includes all relevant sections, logical flow and smooth transitions, sentence structure, grammar, spelling, verb tense, punctuation, 12-15 pages double spaced **and** **Citations** - Most relevant 20-30 references for work, with majority being primary papers. Properly used within paper, consistently formatted properly throughout.	
Overall Grade (out of 100)	

All assignments must be submitted electronically to turnitin.com and blackboard by the due date and time. Late penalties apply: 5% per day for written assignments (up to 1 week after due date, after which assignments will not be accepted)

MISSED ASSESSMENT POLICY

This course follows the University of Toronto's Policies on missed tests and assignments and follows the Human Biology Program's procedures for missed tests and assignments**. Students are expected to follow these policies and procedure as they will be strictly enforced.** Please note that this policy applies to everything due in this course.

Steps for missed assessments with a valid reason only:

1. Fill out the HMB Missed Assessment Form:

https://www.hmb.utoronto.ca/missed_assessment

- A copy of this form and its details will be emailed to you and to your instructor; this is how you notify your course instructor.

2. Self-declare your absence on ACORN
   - The HMB program office will ONLY contact you if there is an issue

3. Check your course syllabus (page 4) for all penalties and next steps.
   - Note, if an assessment deadline is missed the ***ASSSIGNMENT IS STILL DUE.*** Do **NOT** wait for confirmation from the program office to submit, because confirmation will not come.
   - If you missed an assessment and a **make-up** is expected, contact your instructor directly to schedule the make up after you have completed Steps 1 and 2.

Please note that the HMB Missed Assessment Form must be submitted within five (5) business dates of the missed test/quiz date or assignment deadline.

EXTENSION REQUESTS & PENALTY FOR LATE ASSIGNMENTS

Contact the Instructor by email to request the extension at least **ONE WEEK** prior to the due date. Extensions will not be granted if this step is not followed. *Complete Steps 1 listed above*.

NOTE: In any case, the ASSIGNMENT IS STILL DUE with a maximum extension of ONE WEEK if the above is followed and the reason validated. Do NOT wait for confirmation from the program office to submit, because confirmation will not come. An extension beyond the initial extension is **only possible under exceptional circumstances supported by valid documentation.**

- **Late penalties on all written assignments: *10% per day** for all assignments (up to 5 days after due date, after which assignments will not be accepted)
- **Missed in-lab case study:** will be reweighed into the final presentation with valid verified documentation
- **Missed in-lab quizzes**: **cannot be taken at a later time.** Up to three missed quizzes (with valid verified documentation) will be reweighed and re-distributed across the other quizzes; more than three missed quizzes (with valid verified documentation) will be reweighed into the final presentation

STATEMENT ON ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

The University of Toronto treats cases of academic misconduct very seriously. Academic integrity is a fundamental value of learning and scholarship at the UofT. Participating honestly, respectfully, responsibly, and fairly in this academic community ensures that your UofT degree is valued and respected as a true signifier of your individual academic achievement.

The University of Toronto's Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters outlines the behaviours that constitute academic misconduct, the processes for addressing academic offences, and the penalties that may be imposed. You are expected to be familiar with the contents of this document. Potential offences include, but are not limited to:

In written assignments and final presentation:

- Using someone else's ideas or words without appropriate acknowledgement.
- Submitting your own work in more than one course.
- Making up sources or facts.
- Obtaining or providing unauthorized assistance on any assignment (this includes working in groups on assignments that are supposed to be individual work).

Any instance of suspected academic dishonesty will be reported to the Office of Student Academic Integrity. For further information on you may wish to visit http://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/osai/resources and http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice.

Ouriginal – Plagiarism Software

This course uses Ouriginal. All written assignments will automatically be submitted to Ouriginal via Quercus when your assignment is uploaded. Normally, students will be required to submit their course essays to University's plagiarism detection tool for a review of textual similarity and detection of possible plagiarism. In doing so, students will allow their essays to be included as source documents in the tool's reference database, where they will be used solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. The terms that apply to the University's use of this tool are described on the Centre for Teaching Support & Innovation web site (https://uoft.me/pdt-faq).].