MCS 4934/MCB6940: Exploring Career Opportunities (1 credit) and Career Development (2 credits) in (Micro)Biology - Fall 2014

Instructor Contact Information
Monika Oli, PhD (moli@ufl.edu)
Office location: MCB room 1049, Museum Road
http://microcell.ufl.edu/personnel/faculty/oli.shtml
Co-Instructors:
   Dr. Valerie De Crecy-Lagard vcrecy@ufl.edu
   Dr. Phil Geis philageis@aol.com

Meeting time
Microbiology Conference Room 1045,
Wednesday’s period 8-9, 3:00 pm – 4:55 pm;
Career Opportunities period 8, 3:00 – 3:50 pm;
Career Development period 8-9, 3:00 pm – 4:55 pm;

Sections for Fall 2014
MCB4934 05E2 (2CR) in class session
MCB4934 0905 (1CR) in class session
MCB4934 1441 (1CR) Web section
MCB4934 111D (1CR) distance education section
MCB 6940 11D1 (1CR) graduate student section

Course Overview
MCB4934/MCB6940 is intended to benefit students making career decisions and organizing their academic credentials to support these decisions. The class will be taught as a lecture/presentation and discussion/activity hands-on course with emphasis on exploring a wide variety of career opportunities in professional schools, academia, industry and alternative professions for (micro)-biology majors and related fields. Throughout the semester a diversity of successful guest speakers will be available for the students to interact with the students and to share their experiences. The students will receive personalized career development feedback from a variety of successful scientists. This interaction with successful scientists in the various career domains will be beneficial to prepare students for successful and rewarding futures, both as balance to and for those not pursuing academic and medical career opportunities.

This class is well suited for pre-professional students to gain insight to obtain internships, embark on post-graduate (bridge) options and to understand that many successful careers have a very non-linear and unconventional path.

We encourage you to take the in class session as the one-to-one interaction with the speakers can be extremely valuable.

Student Learning Outcomes – After successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Understand the diverse career opportunities available in professional schools, academia, industry and alternative professions.
2. Identify personal strengths and interests that align with various career paths.
3. Explore career development strategies and tools.
4. Network with successful scientists and professionals in different career domains.
5. Receive personalized career feedback from successful scientists.
6. Understand the non-linear and unconventional nature of many successful careers.
7. Gain insight into obtaining internships and post-graduate (bridge) options.
8. Develop a plan for their future career path.
1. Career diversity:
   a. Identify a variety of career sectors, and educational opportunities, within each sector.
   b. Compare and contrast different career paths, including academia, industry and government
2. Career preparation
   a. Understand the needs and expectations of local industry, professional school and graduate school
   b. Be able to name and define the expectations and skills needed for the different career sectors
   c. Be prepare for interviews and improve applications
3. Career opportunities
   a. Develop application for an internship or position in your career sector of choice
   b. Visualize alternative careers, interdisciplinary careers and develop a plan B for their future ambitions

Course material and assignments
All required materials (reading, lab exercises, assignments and exams) will be available through the Sakai e-Learning site (https://elearning2.courses.ufl.edu/portal). To login to the Sakai e-Learning system, go to the e-Learning Support Services homepage https://elearning2.courses.ufl.edu/portal and use your GatorLink username and password. You must have an active GatorLink ID to access e-Learning. Should you encounter problems with your GatorLink account or need assistance, contact GatorLink website (http://gatorlink.ufl.edu) or UF Computing Help Desk: The Hub, 392-HELP for assistance. If you need assistance with the e-Learning system, please visit e-Learning Support Services home page (https://elearning2.courses.ufl.edu/portal/help/main) or contact e-Learning Support Team (learning-support@ufl.edu).

Prerequisite: N/A

Required Textbooks: N/A

Evaluation of learning:
MCB4934
All sections: Homework
Homework exercises to be completed before class will be assigned on a regular basis (25%). Homework may include preparation of a CV, composing and submitting an application letter, or exploring alternative career opportunities.
Attendance and class participation
Class attendance and participation in discussions and activities is required (25%)
Assignments – team projects
Assignments, which relate to career opportunities and career development, will be given throughout the course. Students in groups, will be required to analyze specific opportunity segments in depth, including contact within representative biologists operating within the chosen employment segment, and review these for the class. (50%)
Pre- and post-assessment
Pre- and post-assessment of learning outcome and career concepts of the students
will be conducted before and at the end of the course through online questionnaires. Answers and scores will be compared and statistically evaluated.

**Additional assignments for 2 credit section:** 50% of your grade will be derived from the above criteria and 50% of your grade will be derived from
a. Submission of your CV
b. Preparation of elevator speech
c. Mock interview
d. Peer grading and peer interaction

**MCB6940: S/U**

**Make-up policy.** Late assignments will be penalized by deducting -25% of the grade for each late day. Make-ups for the final exam will be given only under exceptional circumstances and organized on a case by case basis.

**Grading:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Minimum %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D-</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>&lt;60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Punctuality and class etiquette:** The class will begin at 4:05 pm. Please be on time and in place. If you need to leave the class early, please notify me at the beginning of the class. Please do not forget to shut cell phones off.

**Academic Honesty, Software Use, Campus Helping Resources, Services for Students with Disabilities**

**Academic Honesty**

In 1995 the UF student body enacted an honor code and voluntarily committed itself to the highest standards of honesty and integrity. When students enroll at the university, they commit themselves to the standard drafted and enacted by students.

The Honor Pledge: We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

On all work submitted for credit by students at the university, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."
Students should report any condition that facilitates dishonesty to the instructor, department chair, college dean, Student Honor Council, or Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution in the Dean of Students Office. It is assumed all work will be completed independently unless the assignment is defined as a group project, in writing by the instructor. This policy will be vigorously upheld at all times in this course.

http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/honorcodes/honorcode.php
(Source: 2011-2012 Undergraduate Catalog)

Software Use:
All faculty, staff and students of the university are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against university policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate.

Campus Helping Resources
Students experiencing crises or personal problems that interfere with their general well-being are encouraged to utilize the university’s counseling resources. The Counseling & Wellness Center provides confidential counseling services at no cost for currently enrolled students. Resources are available on campus for students having personal problems or lacking clear career or academic goals, which interfere with their academic performance.

University Counseling & Wellness Center, 3190 Radio Road, 352-392-1575,
www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/
Career Resource Center, First Floor JWRU, 392-1601, www crc.ufl.edu/

Services for Students with Disabilities
The Disability Resource Center coordinates the needed accommodations of students with disabilities. This includes registering disabilities, recommending academic accommodations within the classroom, accessing special adaptive computer equipment, providing interpretation services and mediating faculty-student disability related issues.

0001 Reid Hall, 352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc Students with Disabilities
www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office in Peabody hall. The Dean of Student Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation at the beginning of the semester.

Syllabus (subject to change)
For deadlines and exams see syllabus check the current version on Sakai

Previous speakers

Careers class – Fall 12

Stephen Donaldson P&G, UK
Dr. Bette Loiselle Ecological microbiology, UF (former NSF) http://www.wec.ufl.edu/faculty/loiselle/
Dr. de Crecy (overview of international and academic career paths) [http://microcell.ufl.edu/personnel/faculty/decrecy.shtml](http://microcell.ufl.edu/personnel/faculty/decrecy.shtml)

Dr. Michelle Danyluk - (careers in Applied and Food microbiology, extension) [http://fshn.ifas.ufl.edu/pages/danyluk.shtml](http://fshn.ifas.ufl.edu/pages/danyluk.shtml)


Ms Sarah Connolly: she is a graduate of MCB 2012 and our first alumnus of this careers class to come back and share her experience as CDC Public Health Associate; [http://www.cdc.gov/phap/](http://www.cdc.gov/phap/); [http://www.linkedin.com/pub/sarah-connolly/14/44a/193](http://www.linkedin.com/pub/sarah-connolly/14/44a/193)

Dr. Richard Devereux – EPA Research Scientist [http://www.epa.gov/ged/research.html](http://www.epa.gov/ged/research.html)


Dr. Mike Farrell CDC, Director of BRRAT (Bioterrorism Rapid Response and Advanced Technology) Laboratory


Weaver Gaines - Biotechnology Nanotherapeutics [http://www.linkedin.com/pub/weaver-gaines/7/552/3b8](http://www.linkedin.com/pub/weaver-gaines/7/552/3b8)


**Previous speakers (spring 2012)**

Dr. de Crecy (overview of international and academic career paths) [http://microcell.ufl.edu/personnel/faculty/decrecy.shtml](http://microcell.ufl.edu/personnel/faculty/decrecy.shtml)


Dr. Singelton - (fortune 500 company, R&D leader at Dow Chemical) [http://www.dow.com/microbial/applications/ma_iwt_meet_the_ask_us_experts.htm](http://www.dow.com/microbial/applications/ma_iwt_meet_the_ask_us_experts.htm)

Dr. Danyluke - (careers in Food microbiology, extension) [http://fshn.ifas.ufl.edu/pages/danyluk.shtml](http://fshn.ifas.ufl.edu/pages/danyluk.shtml)

Dr. Sutton - (regulatory affairs) [http://www.microbiol.org/](http://www.microbiol.org/)


Ms Giglio - Shands diagnostic labs

Dr. Donaldson - P&G UK

Dr. Farrell - CDC, Director of BRRAT (Bioterrorism Rapid Response and Advanced Technology) Laboratory

Mr Neal - Entrepreneur, founder of Advanced Testing Laboratory [http://www.advancedtesting.net/about_advanced_testing.htm](http://www.advancedtesting.net/about_advanced_testing.htm)

Dr. Czerne Reid - science writing, [http://news.medinfo.ufl.edu/author/czerne/](http://news.medinfo.ufl.edu/author/czerne/)

Mr Tony Rook - Sherwin Williams [http://www.linkedin.com/in/tonyrook](http://www.linkedin.com/in/tonyrook)
• Dr. Loiselle - Ecological microbiology, UF (former NSF) http://www.wec.ufl.edu/faculty/loiselle/