

SYLLABUS

PLP 6921 Colloquium

Instructor:

Instructor is by rotation of Departmental Graduate Faculty

Course Time/ Location:

Every fall and spring semester

Colloquium meets once per week for the semester

Time and location varies each semester, by agreement of the instructor and students

Course Description:

Colloquium is a required course - all graduate students are required to take a minimum of 4 semesters per degree. Colloquium classes will be divided into four general topic areas (A-D), and students are expected to take at least one semester of each topic.

A. Oral Presentations

- Slide design and visual presentation of information
- Verbal communication (professional speaking, presentation skills)
- Presenting for different audiences (academic, extension, teaching, job interviews)

B. Grant Writing

- Finding appropriate grants
- Organizing and writing grants
- Tailoring proposals for the agency (hot topics, key words, recognizing institutional objectives)

C. Critical Reading and Writing

- Scientific writing (basic article sections, what information goes where)
- Critical reading: what do you look for?
- Constructive criticism

D. Methods Selection and Critique –Fall 2016 by Ariena van Bruggen

- Identifying appropriate methods for a research question
- Evaluating strengths, limitations, and biases in research methods

Course Objectives:

Overall, Colloquium provides multiple opportunities for students to improve their skills in oral and written communication, critical thinking, and grantsmanship. In addition there may be specific objectives which will vary depending upon the topic area and the instructor.

Grading:

This is a one credit course with letter grades assigned. Students will be graded on their participation in discussions, quality of presentations, and performance of assignments as per the topic and instructor.