

**Biology Colloquium (BCQ)**  
**BIOS 196—Spring 2021, Thursday Section (CRN 11593)**  
**This course is SYNCHRONOUS ONLINE**  
**Thursdays, 2:00-3:50pm**  
**Credit hours: 2**

**Coordinator:** Sheryl Hosler      Email: [shosle3@uic.edu](mailto:shosle3@uic.edu)      Office: SES 3326  
**Drop-in Hours:** **Wednesday 9-10am and by appointment.**

**Join Zoom Meeting:** <https://uic.zoom.us/j/83409172691?pwd=bkRWSGZNBHNoZTJ6OVJmemhJdkw3UT09>  
**Meeting ID:** 834 0917 2691      **Passcode:** 8KpuKeUz

**Thursday Section Student Leaders:**

Ang Karikari	Email: <a href="mailto:akarik2@uic.edu">akarik2@uic.edu</a>
Angelina Velez	Email: <a href="mailto:avelez9@uic.edu">avelez9@uic.edu</a>
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Tanushi Chopra	Email: <a href="mailto:tchopr2@uic.edu">tchopr2@uic.edu</a>

<b>Faculty Advisors:</b> Karin Nelson	Email: <a href="mailto:knelsonn@uic.edu">knelsonn@uic.edu</a>
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Mike Muller	Email: <a href="mailto:mmuller@uic.edu">mmuller@uic.edu</a>

**Class location:** Lectures: Synchronous online (*Zoom info below*)      **Pre-requisites:** None  
Field Trips: Synchronous online (*with your Student Leader*)      **Textbook:** None  
BCQ Office: SES 3360

**Join Zoom Meeting:** <https://uic.zoom.us/j/89652510477?pwd=ZWFzdVBNRE1vbGprbERCbUFzSHZiZz09>  
**Meeting ID:** 896 5251 0477      **Passcode:** 0V24zrwK

**Overview:**

The Biology Colloquium (BCQ) is a class that exposes students to the many possible career choices one can pursue with a degree in Biology. Beyond that, it provides students an opportunity for networking with faculty, researchers, and each other.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

1. Students will learn how life sciences professionals came into their careers
2. Students will visit (virtually) labs and other life sciences facilities and learn about the wide array of careers available in the life sciences

**Expectations:**

Students are expected to attend all classes unless ill. Attendance is important, as this class meets only once a week. Students are expected to participate actively by asking questions and taking part in pre-lecture activities. Students are expected to treat lecturers and field trip hosts with respect by not using cell phones, talking to one another, or sleeping during a presentation.

**Last day to drop this course without penalty: Friday, January 22, 2021**

**Last day to drop and receive a “W” on your transcript: Friday, March 19, 2021**

**BCQ Schedule and Website**

The schedule of seminars and field trips will be listed on Blackboard in the “Calendar” tab, <https://uic.blackboard.com/ultra/institution-page>. Information about past BCQ activities, students, and past optional BCQ fall and summer field trips are available on <https://www.uicbcq.org/>

## Course Grading Policy:

There are **370 total points** you can earn in this class. Points are earned by completing journals, taking quizzes, and through attendance and participation. A journal is required after each Lecture and Field Trip, worth 10 points each. The quiz on Blackboard must be completed after each Lecture, for 15 points each. **Please note: quizzes cannot be made up if you are absent the day of the lecture.**

Scores can be viewed in Blackboard (Gradebook tab) at: <https://uic.blackboard.com/ultra/institution-page>

Syllabus Quiz: Completed 2nd week in class.	20 points	Total 20 points.
12 journals	10 points each.	Total 120 points.
6 quizzes	15 points each.	Total 90 points.
13 weeks of Participation	5 points every week.	Total 65 points.
2 Student Leader Evaluations	15 points each	Total 30 points.
Final Reflection Paper	45 points	Total 45 points.

**Class Total: 370 points**

## Grade Cutoffs:

A = 333+

B = 296-332

C = 259-295

D = 222-258

F < 221

## Deductions

To respect the speakers who take time away from their careers to come and speak to us, noticeable distraction during a lecture and during field trips is a **3 point deduction** each time until participation reaches 0 points for the day. "Noticeable distraction" includes not having your video on during the call or otherwise being obviously not engaged. Failure to turn in your journal on time results in half points (i.e. 5 points maximum possible, **last time to submit a late journal is Saturday at midnight of the same week journal was due**). Blackboard quizzes **cannot be made-up if the deadline is missed. BCQ has zero tolerance for plagiarism and will lead to a failing grade in the course**: do not copy Internet resources or other students, use your own experiences.

## Absence Policy:

- 2 unexcused absences will be permitted per student.
- Any additional absences **MUST** be accompanied by documentation.
- Additional unexcused absences will be grounds for a score of zero on the assignment/quiz/participation, and may lead to failure in the course.
- Students with documented disabilities affecting attendance and a Letter of Accommodation will be accommodated for up to but no more than three total absences. No absence documentation beyond the LOA is required.

**Unexcused absence:** Without 24-hour notice, without documentation.

- 0 points on journal, quiz, and attendance without the possibility of a make-up assignment.

**Excused absence:** With 24-hour notice or documentation of absence.

- A make-up assignment is assigned in place of the journal (10pts). 0 points for any quiz missed, 0 attendance points.

## Technology Needs

You should have a laptop and a fast internet connection to participate in this online course. We recognize that some students may have difficulty accessing technology in order to attend synchronous online classes. Please refer to the listed resources to alleviate any technology needs. If further difficulties arise, please contact the course Coordinator via email.

Laptop lending: <https://accu.uic.edu/services/teaching-learning/equipment-lending/>

Drive-up WiFi Locations: [www.ildceo.net/wifi](http://www.ildceo.net/wifi)

## Students with Disabilities:

Students who require accommodations for access and participation in this course must be registered with the Disability Resource Center and must inform the course Coordinator of the need for accommodations by the second week of class. A copy of the Letter of Accommodation (LOA) must be sent to the BCQ Coordinator and all faculty coordinators.

Please contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS) at (312) 413-2183 (voice) or (312) 413-0123 (TTY) to arrange for a LOA. **Students with quiz/exam time accommodations should remind the Coordinator at least 3 days before each quiz, so the time accommodation can be set up properly.**

Because of the participatory nature of the Biology Colloquium, a reasonable absence accommodation for this course is a maximum of three missed lectures/field trips. Disabilities that involve chronic, repeated absences from more than three total lectures/field trips cannot be accommodated in this course—you need to be present regularly for credit.

## Schedule

**Journals are turned in to Blackboard via SafeAssign  
Quizzes are posted on Blackboard under “Assignments”**

Week	Date	Agenda	Assignments	Points
1	01/14	Go over Syllabus + Introduction to class and Student Leaders	None	None
2	01/21	Briefly review Syllabus again for late registration  How To Do College	Syllabus Quiz	Syllabus Quiz (20 pts)
3	01/28	Introduction to the Coordinator  Sheryl Hosler – Ecology  Introduce groups to their Student Leaders	None	None
4	02/04	Angelina’s Activity  Dr. Valerie Fitzhugh - Pathology	Quiz 1 and Journal 1 due Wednesday 02/10 at 11:59 PM	Quiz 1 (15 pts) Journal 1 (10 pts) Participation 2 (5 pts.)

5	02/11	Small Field Trip (I)	Journal 2 Due Wednesday 02/17 at 11:59 PM	Journal 2 (10 pts) Participation 1 (5 pts.)
6	02/18	Pre-Lecture Activity  Nancy Miorelli – Entomology & Ecotourism	Quiz 2 and Journal 3 due Wednesday 02/24 at 11:59 PM	Quiz 2 (15 pts) Journal 3 (10 pts) Participation 3 (5 pts.)
7	02/25	Small Field Trip (II)	Journal 4 due Wednesday 03/03 at 11:59 PM	Journal 4 (10 pts) Participation 4 (5 pts.)
8	03/04	Tanushi's Activity  Dr. Jaye Gardiner – Cell Biology & Science Communication	Quiz 3 and Journal 5 due Wednesday 03/10 at 11:59 PM	Quiz 3 (15 pts) Journal 5 (10 pts) Participation 5 (5 pts.)
9	03/11	Small Field Trip (III)	Journal 6 due Wednesday 03/17 at 11:59 PM <b><u>Student Leader Evaluation #1</u></b>	Journal 6 (10 pts) Participation 6 (5 pts) Student Leader Evaluation #1 (15 pts)
10	03/18	Ang's Activity  Dr. Harsha Kumar – Pediatric Medicine	Quiz 4 and Journal 7 due Wednesday 03/24 at 11:59 PM	Quiz 4 (15 pts) Journal 7 (10 pts) Participation (5 pts.)
11	03/25	<b>Spring Break</b>	<b>Spring Break</b>	<b>Spring Break</b>
12	04/01	Small Field Trip (IV)	Journal 8 due Wednesday 04/07 at 11:59 PM	Journal 8 (10 pts) Participation 8 (5 pts.)
13	04/08	Janet's Activity  Esmarline De León-Peralta – Biomedical Engineering and Space Medicine	Quiz 5 and Journal 9 due Wednesday 04/14 at 11:59 PM	Quiz 5 (15 pts) Journal 9 (10 pts) Participation 9 (5 pts.)
14	04/15	Small Field Trip (V)	Journal 10 due Wednesday 04/21 at 11:59 PM	Journal 10 (10 pts) Participation 10 (5 pts.)

15	04/22	Pre-Lecture Activity  Alex, Micah, Sydney, and Tim – EPA	Quiz 6 and Journal 11 due Wednesday 04/28 at 11:59 PM  <b><u>Student Leader Evaluation #2</u></b>	Quiz 6 (15 pts.) Journal 11 (10 pts.) Participation 11 (5 pts.) Student Leader Eval (15)
16	04/29	Small Field Trip (V)	Journal 12 due Wednesday 05/05 at 11:59 PM	Journal 12 (10 pts.) Participation 12 (5 pts.)
17	05/06	Good luck on Finals!		

### Grading Criteria:

#### Journal Rubric—10 pts. each

Each Journal should be at least one full page, Times New Roman, 12 pt. font, double spaced and 1-inch margins. Headings should include your name, your Student Leader's name, and the lecture/field trip. An example of a good journal is on BB under "Assignments".

**\*A point will be taken off for EVERY FORMATTING ERROR\***

The journal should consist of:

- P1: Who was the speaker/where was the field trip? What did you learn? (3 pts)  
If you could ask the speaker/field trip host one question, what would it be? (1 pt)
- P2: What did you like and not like about the speaker/field trip? (4 pts)
- P3: Would you recommend this speaker/field trip for future classes? Why/ why not? (2 pts)

#### Quizzes—15 pts. each

Quizzes will be worth 15 points total. Quizzes are written based on the material in lecture and will be posted within 24 hours after lecture. They will be available on Blackboard after lecture and expire at the end-of-day before the next class (Wednesday at 11:59PM). To avoid disappointment, don't wait until 11:59 to submit!

#### Final Reflection Paper Rubric—45 pts.

This 45-point paper encapsulates the year and provides valuable feedback that shapes the course for the future. It should be at least two full pages, Times New Roman, 12-pt. font, double-spaced, and 1-inch margins. Headings should include your name and your student leader's name. This is a mandatory paper! **The Final Paper must submitted on Blackboard by the May 4th due date, no late papers will be accepted.**

- P1: Discuss the performance of your Student Leader, what could they have improved and what did they do well? (5 pts.)
- P2: Discuss the performance of the Coordinator in the way stated above. (5 pts.)
- P3: Discuss the aspects of the class that worked well. (10 pts.)
- P4: Discuss those that didn't and how you think they can be improved. (10 pts.)
- P5: What was the most useful/important thing you learned in this class? How did BCQ help with your future endeavors? OR How did it not help and how it can be improved for future classes (10 pts.)

**EXTRA CREDIT PAPER —15 pts.**

Students interested in earning extra credit have the opportunity to write an extra paper exploring a career where their biology degree could be useful.

Subject: The student should choose a career they are not already familiar with (**for example, if you are interested in pre-med and are already thinking about applying to medical school, you should pick a non-medical career**) and research specifics of this career path. Research can be done via interview with a professional in the field or through traditional research methods (reading, watching explanatory videos, etc), or a combination thereof.

Structure: Using information gathered from research, the student should write a paper in first-person, as if they were a professional in the chosen field. The paper will cover the professional's path to their career, what a typical day looks like for them, what they like best about their career, and what they like least about their career.

Format: The paper should be at least two full pages, Times New Roman, 12-pt. font, double-spaced, and 1-inch margins. Headings should include your name and your student leader's name. Citations for research sources should be included at the end of the paper and *are not included in the length requirement*.

**Extra Credit Papers must be submitted on Blackboard by the May 4th due date, no late papers will be accepted.**