DSR574 Stem Cell and Developmental Biology Seminar Series (1 unit)

Fridays—12:00-1:00pm
9/8 – 12/1/17
Location: Broad CIRM Center 1st Floor Seminar Room

Instructor: Joseph Rodgers
Office: BCC 301
Contact Info: jtrodger@usc.edu (323) 865-1549

Course Description
Selected topics in Development, Stem Cell, and Regeneration. Seminars are presented by students and postdoc fellows.

Learning Objectives
- To familiarize you with the research and expertise in the areas of developmental and stem cell biology that is at USC.
- To promote scientific interactions between students.
- To identify important aspects and features of an effective research presentation.

Prerequisite/Co-Requisite: none
Course Notes: See Blackboard.
Required Readings and Supplementary Materials: none

Description and Assessment
Each week there will be two presentations by graduate students and postdocs on their research on developmental, stem cell, and/or regenerative biology.

This is a credit/no-credit class, in order to receive credit you must fulfill two (2) requirements: 1) Attendance and 2) Assignments.
All grades and attendance will be recorded on Blackboard.

1. Attendance.
   There will be 12 class meetings, you must attend at least 9 to receive credit for the course.
   Attendance will be determined from the sign in sheet, which will be at the coffee table at each class.
   - Contact the instructor before class if you have a schedule conflict and cannot attend a class. In some cases absences will be excused and you will be given credit, this is far more likely if you give notification before class.

2. Assignments.
A) PhD students (e.g. PIBBS)
   - To receive credit for DSR574, over the course of the semester you must ask at least 3 questions during the question/answer period after the presentations.
   - Make sure the instructor records that you have asked a question (contact in person, by email, by blackboard, etc).
B) SCRM Program (Master’s Students or progressive Master’s Students)
   - To receive credit for DSR574 you can either ask questions to the speakers during the question/answer period or submit a written assignment on the presentation. To receive credit you need to complete any combination totaling 100 points

   **Asking a question to the speaker during Q&A period:** 33 1/3 points per question.
   - Raise your hand, ask a question to the speaker during the question and answer session.
   - Make sure the instructor records that you asked a question (contact in person, email, blackboard).

   **Written Assignment:** 11 1/9 points per speaker.
   - Write your response to a speaker’s presentation 4-6 sentences. This is **NOT** a summary of the presentation, this is your response to the presentation. Some examples of things to write about:
     - What was interesting, insightful, confusing, exciting, etc in the presentation.
     - What you learned about biology, technology, techniques, or presentation style.
     - Any new ideas for that this presentation might have given you.
     - What was effective/ineffective about the presentation style, tone, content, etc.
   - Written assignment should be submitted via Blackboard within 1 week of the presentation on which you are writing.

**Final Exam**
There is no final exam.

**Grading Breakdown**

This is a credit/no credit class. To receive credit students must:
1. Attend at least 9 classes and sign in.
2. Score 100 points by any combination of asking questions or completing written assignments.
   - Asking the speaker a question during Q&A: 33 1/3 points per question
   - Written assignment: 11 1/9 points

Grades will be posted and updated on Blackboard throughout the semester

**Assignment Submission Policy**
Submit via Blackboard, the deadline for the written assignment is 1 week after the presentation.

**Policy on Attendance**
Contact the instructor if you have a schedule conflict and will miss class.

**Course Schedule:**
Fridays 12pm, 9/8/2017 – 12/1/2017
- Fri, 9/8 — First seminar
- Fri, 11/24 — no class, Thanksgiving Break
- Fri, 12/1 — Last seminar