

University of Arkansas - Fort Smith
5210 Grand Avenue
P. O. Box 3649
Fort Smith, AR 72913-3649
479-788-7000

General Syllabus

BIOL 420V Special Topics in Biology

Credit Hours: 1-4 Variable. Lecture/Lab Hours: 1-4 Variable

Prerequisites: Junior standing and consent of instructor

Effective Catalog: 2018- 2019

I. Course Information

A. Catalog Description

Current, advanced topics in biology are explored through lecture and/or laboratory work. Topics are selected by faculty members according to their areas of expertise and student interest. May be repeated when topics vary for a total of twelve hours.

B. Additional Information - None

II. Student Learning Outcomes

A. Subject Matter

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Efficiently utilize available library resources to acquire adequate research material relating to the particular topic being presented.
2. Interpret primary scientific research.
3. Critically analyze peer-reviewed scientific publications.
4. Evaluate advanced laboratory techniques pertaining to the particular topic being addressed.

B. University Learning Outcomes (ULO)

This course enhances student abilities in the following areas:

Communication Skills (written and oral)

Students will demonstrate proficiency in communicating through presentation of arguments either in writing or orally.

Analytical Skills

Critical Thinking Skills: The student will demonstrate the ability to identify a problem, isolate its components, organize information for decision making, establish criteria for evaluation, and draw appropriate and creative conclusions through participation in problem-solving and troubleshooting activities.

III. Major Course Topics

Course topics can include any biological area and will vary each semester depending upon the faculty member's area of expertise and interest of the students.