

**Seminars in Environmental Health Sciences**  
**EHS 790**  
**Course Syllabus**  
**Fall 2009**

**Location:**

Axelrod Theater Biggs Laboratory Fridays 3:30 to 4:30 pm

**Course Directors:**

Robert L. Jansing Ph.D., Assistant Professor  
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**Office Hours:**

By Appointment

**Course Description:**

The course is required for all M.S. and Ph.D. students in Environmental Health Sciences. This course provides training in the public presentation of scientific material as well as the opportunity for students to perfect their skills in this area. In addition, faculty, postdocs, and invited speakers will attend and make presentations, which will foster interactions in an intellectual, scientific setting.

**Learning Objectives:**

Students will learn how to present a professional quality research seminar. The purpose of the course is several fold: to serve as a practice ground for giving seminars to scientists; to learn how to prepare for seminars; to present a student's current research; to increase interactions between students, postdocs and faculty; and to provide a sounding board for ideas and problems related to students' thesis research.

**Prerequisites:** 1 Credit of EHT 780.

**Credits:** Variable 0-1 contingent on semester of matriculation into the department.

**Grading:** S/U

**Course Requirements:**

- Each student is required to give a seminar appropriate for a general scientific audience on either their research or a topic approved by the course coordinators. Seminars must be 30 to 45 minutes and include a written abstract and visual material prepared with PowerPoint software.
- Grading is based on attendance, written material, quality of seminar and participation in classroom discussions that follow seminars. Seminars are evaluated based on content, organization, quality of PowerPoint presentation, articulation of material and responses to questions.

**Additional Requirements:**

- Seminar abstracts will be due on the Wednesday before presentation.
- Students must provide a working e-mail address to the course instructors.

**Attendance:** Although students are expected to attend all seminars, we understand that scheduling conflicts can arise. Therefore a total of 2 absences are permitted. Students missing additional seminars will be asked to write a short paper on a topic assigned by one of the course instructors.