

PROPOSAL WRITING

Spring 2011

Lectures: Mondays 4:00 – 5:00pm

Place: Rm. 665, CSRB

Instructors: Paula Gregory, Ph.D.

568-6153

e-mail: pgrego@lsuhsc.edu

Text: *handouts from the NIH website*

Format: Classes will combine didactic presentations with class discussions. The class will meet one hour each week for fifteen weeks.

Grading: Student grades (S/U) will be based on their participation and timely writing assignments (75%) and their attendance (25%). **Attendance is mandatory, students are allowed one excused absence and one unexcused absence. More than 2 absences will result in a grade of “Unsatisfactory”.**

Course Description

This course is designed for graduate and professional students. It will provide the students with the concepts and structure to prepare a successful proposal. Students will learn to develop a rigorous, well-defined experimental plan. The course will concentrate on NIH style proposals and format, particularly the Individual National Research Service Award (NRSA).

Recommended Readings: *PHS Application Kit and Grant Writing Tips Sheets*

Week One: Overview of the course content, purpose and NIH grant guidelines

Week Two: NIH style biosketch – components and content; Funding sources and RePORT

Week Three: Discuss results of RePORT findings; Turn in draft biosketch;

Week Four: Discuss specific aims and hypotheses and how they relate to one another

Week Five: Specific Aims Page – introducing your topic; Turn in draft hypotheses and specific aims (must be checked by mentor); discuss biosketch issues,

Week Six: Abstract/Summary – overview; Turn in draft of Specific Aims page; discuss edited aims and hypothesis

Week Seven: Turn in draft of Abstract; Discuss Background and significance section

Week Eight: Return edited Abstract and discuss; Turn in outline of background section; Discuss Preliminary Data section;

Week Nine: Turn in Preliminary Data for at least one set of experiments

Week Ten: Turn in draft of Background and Significance section; Discuss Experimental Design section

Week Eleven: Turn in write up of at least ONE experiment

Week Twelve: Discuss Experimental Design edits/issues

Week Thirteen: Discuss any lingering questions concerning sections of the grant

Week Fourteen: Mock Study Section

LSUHSC School of Graduate Studies
Proposal Writing
Paula Gregory, Ph.D. Course Director

1. **Course Description:** This course is designed to assist students in preparing proposals that follow the rules and guidelines of an NIH proposal. Students will learn to organize and write a research project proposal, which will include presenting the information in clear language. Students will learn to develop a rigorous, well-defined experimental plan and to correlate their hypotheses with their specific aims. The class meets one hour/week and provides guided writing of the majority of the students' proposal.
2. **Course Duplications:** This course lays the foundation for any other courses on proposal writing.
3. **Design of the Curriculum:** This course is designed to address the special interests of students in the School of Graduate Studies.
4. **Required Course:** This course is required for all students in the Dept. of Genetics
5. **Discussed and Approved:** This course has been discussed with the Chair of the Dept. of Genetics
6. **Estimated Number of Students:** This course will be attended by approximately 10 students/year.
7. **Additional Staff:** No additional staff will be needed.
8. **Additional Space:** No additional space will be required.
9. **Additional Equipment:** No additional equipment will be needed for the course.