



BIOL388

Advanced Science (Biology) 3

FY1 Day 2014

Dept of Biological Sciences

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Unit Convenor

Culum Brown

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Other Staff

Katherine McClellan

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Credit points

3

Prerequisites

39cp including BIOL188 and admission to BAdvSc

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This tutorial unit meets for one hour weekly to discuss hot topics and recent research advances in biology with a variety of scientists from a diverse background. Students undertake a research internship in biology and produce a report (in scientific format) on their findings at the annual conference.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at <https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates>

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

Research a topic from the primary scientific literature

Critically evaluate, synthesize and assess the literature on a variety of biological topics

Communicate your understanding of aspects of this topic in written form

Communicate a synthesis of this topic in oral form

Gain practical experience in a research laboratory

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Due
<u>Attendance: weekly discussions</u>	20%	N/A
<u>Completion: internship</u>	20%	N/A
<u>Presentation: Internship</u>	20%	Nov 2012
<u>Written scientific paper</u>	40%	25/11/2012

Attendance: weekly discussions

Due: **N/A**

Weighting: **20%**

Attendance and contribution to weekly discussions

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Research a topic from the primary scientific literature
- Critically evaluate, synthesize and assess the literature on a variety of biological topics
- Communicate your understanding of aspects of this topic in written form
- Communicate a synthesis of this topic in oral form

Completion: internship

Due: **N/A**

Weighting: **20%**

The lab manager will report back to the director regarding the competency of the student during their internship

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Research a topic from the primary scientific literature
- Critically evaluate, synthesize and assess the literature on a variety of biological topics
- Gain practical experience in a research laboratory

Presentation: Internship

Due: **Nov 2012**

Weighting: **20%**

Seminar on the outcome of the internship to fellow students

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Research a topic from the primary scientific literature
- Critically evaluate, synthesize and assess the literature on a variety of biological topics
- Communicate a synthesis of this topic in oral form

Written scientific paper

Due: **25/11/2012**

Weighting: **40%**

Submission of a short scientific paper based on the findings of the internship research program

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Research a topic from the primary scientific literature
- Critically evaluate, synthesize and assess the literature on a variety of biological topics
- Communicate your understanding of aspects of this topic in written form

Delivery and Resources

Delivery is centred around the weekly tutorials which may take a number of forms

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](#). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

Academic Honesty Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/academic_honesty/policy.html

Assessment Policy <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/assessment/policy.html>

Grading Policy <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grading/policy.html>

Grade Appeal Policy <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/gradeappeal/policy.html>

Grievance Management Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grievance_management/policy.html

Disruption to Studies Policy http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/disruption_studies/policy.html *The Disruption to Studies Policy is effective from March 3 2014 and replaces the Special Consideration Policy.*

In addition, a number of other policies can be found in the [Learning and Teaching Category](#) of Policy Central.

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: https://students.mq.edu.au/support/student_conduct/

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit <http://students.mq.edu.au/support/>

Learning Skills

Learning Skills (mq.edu.au/learningskills) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to improve your marks and take control of your study.

- [Workshops](#)
- [StudyWise](#)
- [Academic Integrity Module for Students](#)
- [Ask a Learning Adviser](#)

Student Services and Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the [Disability Service](#) who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

Student Enquiries

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit <http://informatics.mq.edu.au/help/>.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the [Acceptable Use Policy](#). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

Graduate Capabilities

Capable of Professional and Personal Judgement and Initiative

We want our graduates to have emotional intelligence and sound interpersonal skills and to demonstrate discernment and common sense in their professional and personal judgement. They will exercise initiative as needed. They will be capable of risk assessment, and be able to handle ambiguity and complexity, enabling them to be adaptable in diverse and changing environments.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Communicate your understanding of aspects of this topic in written form
- Communicate a synthesis of this topic in oral form
- Gain practical experience in a research laboratory

Commitment to Continuous Learning

Our graduates will have enquiring minds and a literate curiosity which will lead them to pursue knowledge for its own sake. They will continue to pursue learning in their careers and as they participate in the world. They will be capable of reflecting on their experiences and relationships with others and the environment, learning from them, and growing - personally, professionally and socially.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Communicate your understanding of aspects of this topic in written form
- Communicate a synthesis of this topic in oral form
- Gain practical experience in a research laboratory

Discipline Specific Knowledge and Skills

Our graduates will take with them the intellectual development, depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content in their chosen fields to make them competent and confident in their subject or profession. They will be able to demonstrate, where relevant, professional technical competence and meet professional standards. They will be able to articulate the structure of knowledge of their discipline, be able to adapt discipline-specific knowledge to novel situations, and be able to contribute from their discipline to inter-disciplinary solutions to problems.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Research a topic from the primary scientific literature
- Critically evaluate, synthesize and assess the literature on a variety of biological topics
- Communicate your understanding of aspects of this topic in written form
- Communicate a synthesis of this topic in oral form
- Gain practical experience in a research laboratory

Assessment tasks

- Attendance: weekly discussions
- Completion: internship
- Presentation: Internship
- Written scientific paper

Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking

We want our graduates to be capable of reasoning, questioning and analysing, and to integrate and synthesise learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments; to be able to

critique constraints, assumptions and limitations; to be able to think independently and systemically in relation to scholarly activity, in the workplace, and in the world. We want them to have a level of scientific and information technology literacy.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Research a topic from the primary scientific literature
- Critically evaluate, synthesize and assess the literature on a variety of biological topics
- Communicate your understanding of aspects of this topic in written form
- Communicate a synthesis of this topic in oral form
- Gain practical experience in a research laboratory

Assessment tasks

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- Completion: internship
- Presentation: Internship
- Written scientific paper

Problem Solving and Research Capability

Our graduates should be capable of researching; of analysing, and interpreting and assessing data and information in various forms; of drawing connections across fields of knowledge; and they should be able to relate their knowledge to complex situations at work or in the world, in order to diagnose and solve problems. We want them to have the confidence to take the initiative in doing so, within an awareness of their own limitations.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Research a topic from the primary scientific literature
- Critically evaluate, synthesize and assess the literature on a variety of biological topics
- Communicate your understanding of aspects of this topic in written form
- Communicate a synthesis of this topic in oral form
- Gain practical experience in a research laboratory

Assessment tasks

- Attendance: weekly discussions
- Completion: internship
- Presentation: Internship
- Written scientific paper

Creative and Innovative

Our graduates will also be capable of creative thinking and of creating knowledge. They will be imaginative and open to experience and capable of innovation at work and in the community. We want them to be engaged in applying their critical, creative thinking.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Research a topic from the primary scientific literature
- Critically evaluate, synthesize and assess the literature on a variety of biological topics
- Communicate your understanding of aspects of this topic in written form
- Communicate a synthesis of this topic in oral form
- Gain practical experience in a research laboratory

Effective Communication

We want to develop in our students the ability to communicate and convey their views in forms effective with different audiences. We want our graduates to take with them the capability to read, listen, question, gather and evaluate information resources in a variety of formats, assess, write clearly, speak effectively, and to use visual communication and communication technologies as appropriate.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Research a topic from the primary scientific literature
- Critically evaluate, synthesize and assess the literature on a variety of biological topics
- Communicate your understanding of aspects of this topic in written form
- Communicate a synthesis of this topic in oral form
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Assessment tasks

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Engaged and Ethical Local and Global citizens

As local citizens our graduates will be aware of indigenous perspectives and of the nation's historical context. They will be engaged with the challenges of contemporary society and with knowledge and ideas. We want our graduates to have respect for diversity, to be open-minded, sensitive to others and inclusive, and to be open to other cultures and perspectives: they should

have a level of cultural literacy. Our graduates should be aware of disadvantage and social justice, and be willing to participate to help create a wiser and better society.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Critically evaluate, synthesize and assess the literature on a variety of biological topics
- Communicate your understanding of aspects of this topic in written form
- Communicate a synthesis of this topic in oral form
- Gain practical experience in a research laboratory

Socially and Environmentally Active and Responsible

We want our graduates to be aware of and have respect for self and others; to be able to work with others as a leader and a team player; to have a sense of connectedness with others and country; and to have a sense of mutual obligation. Our graduates should be informed and active participants in moving society towards sustainability.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Communicate your understanding of aspects of this topic in written form
- Communicate a synthesis of this topic in oral form
- Gain practical experience in a research laboratory

Changes since First Published

Date	Description
14/01/2014	The Prerequisites was updated.