

Assignment and Grading:

Class participation is important! Your grade will depend in part on how much you speak up or ask questions in class. Remember, there is no such thing as a foolish question. If you don't understand something, it is more foolish not to ask a question! And some of the most simple or apparently naïve questions end up being the most provocative. So speak up!

There will be several short assignments or problem sets of 4-6 questions based on material covered in class. They will be used to monitor your understanding and to encourage you to think creatively about the science.

Your midterm assignment will consist of a short paper of about 3 pages, in which you will summarize the problem(s) studied by the seminar speaker, the experiments and their results, and the conclusions and significance of the work. You will also suggest one or two future directions that you might want to investigate if you were doing the research.

The final assignment will be a 3-5 page paper, the topic of which will be revealed later in the course.

Your final grade will be calculated as follows:

Class participation –	100
Problem sets (4) –	200
Midterm paper –	100
Final paper –	100
<i>Total –</i>	<i>500 points</i>

Course Evaluation:

Please go to the following website to fill out a pre-course survey. There will be another survey at the end of the course at the same site. The URL is:

<http://sci.grinnell.edu/surveys/prot/cure.htm>

The login name is “cureresp” and the password is “blue2white”.

TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE

Week 0

Thursday, Sep. 25 Handout syllabus. Course expectations, format & grading.
Introduction to the course.

Week 1

Tuesday, Sep. 30 Seminar #1 → Dr. David Walker. *Fruit Flies in the Fountain of Youth*.

Thursday, Oct. 2 Seminar #1 → Deconstruction session 1
Problem set 1 due.

Week 2

Tuesday, Oct. 7 Seminar #1 → Deconstruction session 2

Thursday, Oct. 9 Seminar #1 → Deconstruction session 3

Week 3

Tuesday, Oct. 14 Seminar #1 → Deconstruction session 4

Thursday, Oct. 16 Seminar #1 → Deconstruction session 5
Problem set 2 due.

Week 4

Tuesday, Oct. 21 Seminar #1 → Deconstruction session 6

Thursday, Oct. 23 Seminar #1 → Deconstruction session 7

Week 5

Tuesday, Oct. 28 Q & A with Dr. David Walker

Thursday, Oct. 30 Information on applying to the Biomedical Research Minor
Midterm paper due.

Week 6

Tuesday, Nov. 4 Seminar #2 → Dr. Fernando Gomez-Pinilla. *Brain Foods: The Effects of Nutrients on Brain Function.*

Thursday, Nov. 6 Seminar #2 → Deconstruction session 1
Problem set 3 due.

Week 7

Tuesday, Nov. 11 Seminar #2 → Deconstruction session 2

Thursday, Nov. 13 Seminar #2 → Deconstruction session 3

Week 8

Tuesday, Nov. 18 Seminar #2 → Deconstruction session 4

Thursday, Nov. 20 Seminar #2 → Deconstruction session 5
Problem set 4 due.

Week 9

Tuesday, Nov. 25 Seminar #2 → Deconstruction session 6

Thursday, Nov. 27 **THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY**

Week 10

Tuesday, Dec. 2 Seminar #2 → Deconstruction session 7

Thursday, Dec. 4 Q & A with Dr. Fernando Gomez-Pinilla

Week 11 (Finals Week)

Tuesday, Dec. 9 **Final paper due.**

Thursday, Dec. 11