

Advanced Topics in Plant Science - Course Syllabus

Course Number: PS 390

Course Title: Advanced Topics in Plant Science

Academic Semester: Spring **Academic Year:** 2015/ 2016
Semester Start Date: Jan 24, 2016 **Semester End Date:** May 19, 2016

Class Schedule: Mondays and Thursdays 10:30-12:00

Classroom Number:

Instructor(s) Name(s): Salim Al-Babili
Email: Salim.Babili@KAUST.EDU.SA

Office Location: Bld 2 level 3 room 3237
Office Hours: by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION FROM PROGRAM GUIDE

The course reviews current topics in bioscience, particularly relying on scientific journal publications to provide case studies, illustrative examples, classic studies, and controversial findings pertinent to specific fields within biosciences. The course will feature an emphasis on primary literature searches, reading and assessment of primary literature. It is expected that the student reads no less than 5 scientific papers per week in the prescribed topic area and is capable of presenting and critically discussing the content of these publications. In this level 300 course, the student assessment is based on active participation in the lectures and tutorials.

COMPREHENSIVE COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course reviews current topics in plant science, particularly relying on scientific journal publications to provide case studies, illustrative examples, classic studies, and controversial findings pertinent to specific fields within biosciences. The course will feature an emphasis on primary literature searches, reading and assessment of primary literature. It is expected that the student reads no less than 5 scientific papers per week in the prescribed topic area and is capable of presenting and critically discussing the content of these publications. In this level 300 course, the student assessment is based on active participation in the lectures and tutorials.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Topic/emphasis and resources as outlined by the instructor.

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE

MS degree

REFERENCE TEXTS

TBD

METHOD OF EVALUATION

Graded content
<p>The students will be assessed on their bi-weekly written assignments (50%). In addition each student will present a core topic as part of the program seminar series (25%). The students will also present a scientific review article on a recent topic fully formatted according to the instructions 'to authors' of a highly regarded journal of the life sciences (25%). Course work will generally comprise >3 hours/week made up of tutorials and laboratory exercises depending on the research topic.</p>

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Assignments

Reading of the primary literature commensurate with the topic.

Course Policies

Attendance is mandatory. Any anticipated absence should be cleared with the instructor by written (email) notification as early as possible.

Additional Information

NOTE

The instructor reserves the right to make changes to this syllabus as necessary.