

## **Master's Report – ABS 909 2019 Course Syllabus**

### **Meeting Time and Place:**

**Day and Time:** As agreed on by the student, the Major Advisor, and members of the Committee

**Location:** As agreed on by the student, the Major Advisor, and members of the Committee

### **Instructors:**

Affiliated faculty of the PSM-ABS GIDP

### **Course Description and Objectives:**

The Professional Science Master's degree in Applied Biosciences at the University of Arizona requires its students to complete and defend a Master's Report as one of the requirements for completion of the degree. The Master's Report summarizes the outcomes of the professional internship that the student completed in actual service in a technical, business, academic or governmental establishment. During the semester, students will prepare the Master's Report under the guidance of their Major Advisor; refine and finalize the Report under the guidance of the Members of the Master's Committee of the student; prepare and deliver an Oral Presentation of the Master's Report; and defend the Report in front of the Master's Committee.

The primary goal of the Master's Report is to give students an opportunity to summarize what they learned during their professional internship and apply their knowledge towards the preparation of a scientific work similar to a Thesis.

The Master's Report has the following secondary goals:

- a) To help students develop their ability to use the scientific style to prepare high quality research summaries;
- b) To help students evaluate their own work in comparison with the status of the scientific field;
- c) To help the students contextualize their own work by mapping out future directions;
- d) To expose students to professional criticism and prepare them to respond to such criticism;
- e) To learn effective written and oral communication skills.

### **Learning Outcomes:**

Through preparing a Master's Report under the guidance of scientific professionals, students will gain an in-depth understanding of effective ways to:

1. Discuss the status of the field and the underlying applied biological problems relevant to their internship work;
2. Discuss the business, regulatory, customer relations, and/or educational environment relevant to their internship work;
3. Communicate the results, findings and implications of their internship projects in a professional and effective manner to their peers and broader clientele, both in writing and orally.

### **Evaluation Grading Summary:**

Master's Reports are evaluated by academic criteria as set out by the Master's Committee. The final grade for the class is determined by the Major Advisor of the student and is based on 1) Evaluation of

the written Master's Report by the Committee, 2) Evaluation of the oral defense of the Master's Report by the Committee. The final grade will be calculated according to the following formula:

Submission of all required forms and documents	5%
Evaluation of the written Master's Report	55%
Evaluation of the oral defense of the Master's Report	40%

**Absence and Class Participation Policy (required)**

The UA's policy concerning Class Attendance, Participation, and Administrative Drops is available at: <http://catalog.arizona.edu/policy/class-attendance-participation-and-administrative-drop>. The UA policy regarding absences for any sincerely held religious belief, observance or practice will be accommodated where reasonable, <http://policy.arizona.edu/human-resources/religious-accommodation-policy>. Absences pre-approved by the UA Dean of Students (or Dean Designee) will be honored. See: <https://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/absences>

**Course Communications:**

University Email and personal interaction in the laboratory.

**Required Texts or Readings:**

There are no required textbooks.

**Final Examination or Project:**

There is no final exam for this course.

**Grading Scale:**

S, P, F grading: For the majority of individual studies courses, one of the grade systems available is the special grades of S, P, F. Grades of S (superior), P (pass), and F (fail) are not included in the calculation of the GPA, nor do they count toward meeting the criteria for dean's list, honorable mention, or academic distinctions.

**Classroom Behavior Policy:**

To foster a positive learning environment, students and instructors have a shared responsibility. We want a safe, welcoming, and inclusive environment where all of us feel comfortable with each other and where we can challenge ourselves to succeed. To that end, our focus is on the tasks at hand and not on extraneous activities (e.g., texting, chatting, reading a newspaper, making phone calls, web surfing, etc.). Students are asked to refrain from disruptive conversations with people sitting around them during lecture. Students observed engaging in disruptive activity will be asked to cease this behavior. Those who continue to disrupt the class will be asked to leave lecture or discussion and may be reported to the Dean of Students.

**Threatening Behavior Policy:**

Required language: The UA Threatening Behavior by Students Policy prohibits threats of physical harm to any member of the University community, including to oneself. See <http://policy.arizona.edu/education-and-student-affairs/threatening-behavior-students>.

**Accessibility and Accommodations:**

Please visit the Disability Resource Center website at: <http://drc.arizona.edu/instructors/syllabus-statement>.

**Code of Academic Integrity:**

Students are encouraged to share intellectual views and discuss freely the principles and applications of course materials. However, graded work/exercises must be the product of independent effort unless

otherwise instructed. Students are expected to adhere to the UA Code of Academic Integrity as described in the UA General Catalog. See: <http://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/academic-integrity/students/academic-integrity>.

The University Libraries have some excellent tips for avoiding plagiarism, available at <http://new.library.arizona.edu/research/citing/plagiarism>.

**UA Nondiscrimination and Anti-harassment Policy:**

The University is committed to creating and maintaining an environment free of discrimination; see <http://policy.arizona.edu/human-resources/nondiscrimination-and-anti-harassment-policy>

Recommended language: Our classroom is a place where everyone is encouraged to express well-formed opinions and their reasons for those opinions. We also want to create a tolerant and open environment where such opinions can be expressed without resorting to bullying or discrimination of others.

**Additional Resources for Students:**

UA Academic policies and procedures are available at <http://catalog.arizona.edu/policies>

Student Assistance and Advocacy information is available at <http://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/student-assistance/students/student-assistance>

**Subject to Change Statement:**

Information contained in the course syllabus, other than the grade and absence policy, may be subject to change with advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.