



BCB 5810 Bioinformatics Colloquium

Class Meeting Time/Location:

Time: Friday 1:15am – 3:00pm

Location: Schwitalla Hall M215 (M315)

- BCB only seminars will start at 2:10pm on Friday at Schwitalla Hall M215
(Feel free to join the Biology seminars that will start at 1:15pm at Schwitalla Hall M315)
- Bio/BCB joint seminars will start at 1:15pm on Friday at Schwitalla Hall M315

Instructor:

Tae-Hyuk (Ted) Ahn, PhD

Assistant Professor

Department of Computer Science

Program of Bioinformatics and Computational Biology

Email: ted.ahn@slu.edu

Office: 305 Ritter Hall (Lab: 302 Ritter Hall)

Phone: (314) 977-3633

Office Hour: Mon 10:00-11:00am, Tue 3:00-4:00pm, Wed 2:00-3:00pm or by appointment

Credits/Pre-requisites:

0 or 1 Credit

None. Undergraduate students must have permission of the course instructor and the Associate Dean for Graduate Education to enroll.

Course Description:

The course provides students with current information about studies in bioinformatics and computational biology through presentations given by faculty members, students, and invited speakers. Students who enroll for credit must present a 20-30 minute talk as part of the seminar, demonstrating their oral communication skills while presenting technical content.

Learning Objectives:

All students will be able to:

- identify and critique styles and formats of scientific oral presentations
- gain exposure and knowledge of current research approaches associated with the field of Bioinformatics
- enable a practical understanding of Bioinformatics and Computational Biology researches

For students taking the course for credit, they will be able to:

- design an outline of a research or literature review talk
- deliver an effective presentation
- judge the quality of presentations

Course Textbook/Reading Materials (optional):

No textbook is required for this course.



Course Expectations:

For those enrolled for **zero** credit, attendance at the talks is expected.

For those enrolled for **one** credit, assignments and the presentation will serve as the basis for your grade. It is expected that students will also attend the talks unless excused in advance by the instructor.

Assignments for one credit students:

1. Critique of three departmental talks: Chose three talks given throughout the semester and record effective and ineffective aspects of the presentations.
2. Design a talk: Feel free to select your presentation topic from your research projects, experiences of developing of bioinformatic software tools, or a current primary research paper. Create a power point presentation and submit to the instructor at least a week before the scheduled presentation. Students will then meet with the instructor or discuss with emails to review the presentation and incorporate suggested changes.
3. Presentation: Students will give a 20-30 minute talk to the class and other faculty members, followed by a question and answer period.
4. Participation: Students are expected to attend all seminars and participate in discussions. Should students have an unexcused absence, they should contact the instructor to explain the reason of absence.

Grading Scheme

Course Item	Percent of Final Grade
Critique of 3 talks by outside speaker	15%
Designing talk	20%
Presentation	60%
Participation	5%
Total	100%

Final grades for the course will be based on the following scale. The instructor reserve the right to make adjustments to grades based on overall performance in the course. There will be no opportunity for “extra credit” to improve grades that have already been earned. Bargaining for grades will not be tolerated.

Letter Grade	F	D	C-	C	C+	B-	B	B+	A-	A
%	<60	≥60 <70	≥70 <73	≥73 <77	≥77 <80	≥80- <83	≥83 <87	≥87 <90	≥90 <93	≥93

Title IX

Saint Louis University and its faculty are committed to supporting our students and seeking an environment that is free of bias, discrimination, and harassment. If you have encountered any form of sexual misconduct (e.g. sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, domestic or dating violence), we encourage you to report this to the University. If you speak with a faculty member about an incident of misconduct, that faculty member must notify SLU’s Title IX coordinator, Anna R. Kratky (DuBourg Hall, room 36; akratky@slu.edu; [314-977-3886](tel:314-977-3886)) and share the basic facts of your experience with her. The Title IX coordinator will then be available to



assist you in understanding all of your options and in connecting you with all possible resources on and off campus.

If you wish to speak with a confidential source, you may contact the counselors at the University Counseling Center at 314-977-TALK. To view SLU's sexual misconduct policy and for resources, please visit the following web addresses: www.slu.edu/here4you and <https://www.slu.edu/general-counsel>.

Disability Services

Students with a documented disability who wish to request academic accommodations must contact Disability Services to discuss accommodation requests and eligibility requirements. Once successfully registered, the student also must notify the course instructor that they wish to access accommodations in the course.

Please contact Disability Services, located within the Student Success Center, at Disability_services@slu.edu or [314.977.3484](tel:314.977.3484) to schedule an appointment. Confidentiality will be observed in all inquiries. Once approved, information about the student's eligibility for academic accommodations will be shared with course instructors via email from Disability Services and viewed within Banner via the instructor's course roster.

Note: Students who do not have a documented disability but who think they may have one are encouraged to contact to Disability Services.

Academic Integrity and Honesty

Academic integrity is honest, truthful and responsible conduct in all academic endeavors. The mission of Saint Louis University is "the pursuit of truth for the greater glory of God and for the service of humanity." Accordingly, all acts of falsehood demean and compromise the corporate endeavors of teaching, research, health care, and community service via which SLU embodies its mission. The University strives to prepare students for lives of personal and professional integrity, and therefore regards all breaches of academic integrity as matters of serious concern.

The governing University-level Academic Integrity Policy was adopted in Spring 2015, and can be accessed on the Provost's Office website at: https://www.slu.edu/provost/policies/academic-and-course/policy_academic-integrity_6-26-2015.pdf.

Additionally, each SLU College, School, and Center has adopted its own academic integrity policies, available on their respective websites. All SLU students are expected to know and abide by these policies, which detail definitions of violations, processes for reporting violations, sanctions, and appeals. Please direct questions about any facet of academic integrity to your faculty, the chair of the department of your academic program, or the Dean/Director of the College, School or Center in which your program is housed.

Student Success Center

In recognition that people learn in a variety of ways and that learning is influenced by multiple factors (e.g., prior experience, study skills, learning disability), resources to support student success are available on campus. The Student Success Center assists students with academic-related services and is located in the Busch Student Center (Suite, 331). Students can visit



<https://www.slu.edu/life-at-slu/student-success-center/> to learn more about tutoring services, university writing services, disability services, and academic coaching.

University Writing Services

Students are encouraged to take advantage of University Writing Services in the Student Success Center; getting feedback benefits writers at all skill levels. Trained writing consultants can help with writing projects, multimedia projects, and oral presentations. University Writing Services offers one-on-one consultations that address everything from brainstorming and developing ideas to crafting strong sentences and documenting sources. For more information, visit <https://www.slu.edu/life-at-slu/student-success-center/> or call the Student Success Center at 314-977-3484.

Basic Needs Security

Students in personal or academic distress and/or who may be specifically experiencing challenges such as securing food or difficulty navigating campus resources, and who believe this may affect their performance in the course, are encouraged to contact the Dean of Students Office (deanofstudents@slu.edu or 314-977-9378) for support. Furthermore, please notify the instructor if you are comfortable in doing so, as this will enable them to assist you with finding the resources you may need.

Tentative schedules

Week	Date	Program	Time and location	Speaker Name	Speaker Affiliation
1	8/31/18	BCB/Bio	1:15pm, STH M315	Jinlyung Choi	Iowa State University
2	9/7/18	BCB	2:10pm, STH M215	Hong Qin	University of Tennessee at Chattanooga
3	9/14/18	BCB	2:10pm, STH M215	Bo Zhang	WashU Department of Developmental Biology
4	9/21/18	BCB	2:10pm, STH M215	Jason Walker	WashU McDonnell Genome Institute (MGI)
5	9/28/18	BCB	2:10pm, STH M215	Jianlin (Jack) Cheng	University of Missouri-Columbia
6	10/5/18	BCB	2:10pm, STH M215	Chi-Ren Shyu	University of Missouri-Columbia
7	10/12/18	BCB	2:10pm, STH M215	Badri Adhikari	UMSL, CS&Bioinformatics
8	10/19/18		No Seminar (Midterm week)		
9	10/26/18	BCB/Bio	1:15pm, STH M315	Kerri Gilbert	Danforth Plant Science Center
10	11/2/18	BCB	2:10pm, STH M215	Tiandao Li	WashU Medicine in St. Louis
11	11/9/18	BCB	2:10pm, STH M215	Johnny Li	Nestle Purina Pet Care Company
12	11/16/18	BCB/Bio	1:15pm, STH M315	Ivan Baxter	Danforth Plant Science Center
13	11/23/18		No Seminar (Thanksgiving break)		
14	11/30/18		1:15pm, STH M215	Students	Saint Louis University, Program of BCB
15	12/7/18		1:15pm, STH M215	Students	Saint Louis University, Program of BCB