SC/BIOL 4200 3.0 – Selected Readings in Biology

Course description:
A reading course offered by special arrangement between an individual student and a faculty supervisor which focuses on a specialized area of biology of mutual interest. The subject matter must be significantly different from that of the student's honours thesis. A student may take this course only once for credit. One term. Three credits. Note: Open only to students with a science grade point average equal to or greater than 6.0.

Course director
Dr. Tanya Noel

Information about this course:
Students are expected to be in their upper years of study (i.e. will normally have completed at least 48 science credits), and supervisors must be undergraduate faculty in the Biology Department at York University.

To enroll in this course, students must obtain an enrolment form from 108 FS (or the Undergraduate Biology website), then find a supervisor and fill out the form with the supervisor. (A list of Faculty members and their research interests may be obtained from the Biology web site or viewed in the Biology Undergraduate Handbook.) The form should then be brought to the course director. If the student is eligible to take the course, an enrolment window will then be opened for the student.

Students with a science GPA slightly lower than 6.0 must apply for permission to take this course from the Biology Department Teaching Committee. It is advised that such students first see the course director before petitioning to the Teaching Committee.

The grading scheme for this course is flexible and up to the supervisor, but as a general guideline, two major essays/literature reviews (25–30 pages each, double spaced) would in some cases be the deliverables, while in other cases, oral presentations and/or written tests may also be required. The grading scheme will be discussed and indicated on the enrolment form.

Academic integrity:
Students are expected to be familiar with and follow York University's policies regarding academic integrity. Please consult the website below for more details:
http://www.yorku.ca/academicintegrity/students.htm

Reminders: Any time you present a statement of fact, you should back it up with a scientific reference, (which should be the **primary** work(s)). It is considered plagiarism if you present unattributed ideas as your own. You must **not** include original phrases (or, worse, entire sentences) from your sources. It is important to summarize by putting things in your own words – and this is more than changing a word or two! Even following the order of particular sentences in a paragraph (or paragraphs in a paper) is unacceptable, if you are presenting the same information.

Note: for students planning to take BIOL 4000 and BIOL 4200 – it is inappropriate to receive double credit for a single body of work. Students taking both BIOL 4000 (especially the 3 credit option) and BIOL 4200 should ensure that the two pieces of work do not overlap. The objectives and thrust of the two pieces of work should be distinct. If the two courses are taken at different times, a copy of the work from the first course must be available at the completion of the second course.

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Term _____ Year _____

Student Name_____ Student # _____

Email Address _____ Phone # _____

Supervisor _____

Brief description of BIOL 4200 topic:

Assessment components:
e.g. Literature review [40%], research proposal [40%], presentation [20%]

Student's signature_____

Supervisor's signature _____

Course Director's signature _____

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If BIOL 4000 completed, list thesis topic: