

BIOD95H (F&S)/98Y/99Y: Supervised study & Directed Research Courses in Biology

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Course Syllabus**2017-2018****Course description:**

D95: This course is designed to permit intensive examination of the primary literature of a select topic. Frequent consultation with the supervisor is necessary and extensive library research is required. The project will culminate in a written report/thesis. Four sessions of group instruction (tutorials) will form part of the mandatory coursework in the Fall term and three sessions are mandatory in the Winter term. In addition, you will be required to attend one of the 3 days assigned for individual consultations in the Fall term (Oct 24, Oct 31 or Nov 7) or one of the 3 days assigned for individual consultations in the Winter term (Feb 6, Feb 13 or Feb 27). You will be notified which day you will have your individual consultation. Note that in both terms, there are more tutorials than D95 students will be required to attend, as many are shared with D98/99 students.

D98: A course designed to permit laboratory or field research or intensive examination of a selected topic in biology. Supervision of the work is arranged by mutual agreement between student and instructor. Eight sessions of mandatory group instruction (tutorials) will form part of the coursework. During the fall term, six tutorials need to be attended, as well as two tutorials in the winter term. In addition, you will be required to attend one of the 3 days assigned for individual consultations in the Fall term (Oct 24, Oct 31 or Nov 7) and one of the 3 days assigned for individual consultations in the Winter term (Feb 6, Feb 13 or Feb 27). You will be notified which day you will have your individual consultation.

D99: Identical to BIOD98Y but intended as a second research experience. In order to be eligible for BIOD99Y, with the same instructor, the student and the instructor will have to provide a plan of study that goes beyond the work of BIOD98Y. Students who have taken their previous D98 in the fall & winter of the previous academic year are not required to attend only 2 of the mandatory sessions (Nov 21st and Jan 23rd). You will also need to attend the individual consultations in the fall and winter terms. In addition, you will also need to turn in all the documents as required by the deadlines listed in the course schedule (e.g. revised Introductions, abstracts, Goals and Timeline sheet and final paper outlines). Students who have taken their D98 in the summer term will have to attend all 8 mandatory tutorials.

Prereqs – D95: 12.5 credits completed with at least 4 are at the B/C level.

Prereqs – D98/99: 13.5 credits completed with at least 4 are at the B/C level.

Time and Location:

Tutorials: Tuesdays, 2 - 3 pm in HW214 in the Fall and Winter terms.

--any exceptions will be noted on the Course Schedule below.

Note: The outlined minimum number of tutorials (above) is mandatory and attendance and participation in them is valued at 10% of your final grade.

Blackboard course resources:

Like many other courses, BIOD98Y3, BIOD99Y3 & BIOD95H3 use a **combined Blackboard course site**. To access this site, go to the U of T Portal login page at <https://portal.utoronto.ca> and log in using your UTORid and password. Once you have logged in, look for the My Courses module, where you'll find the link to the combined BIOD98Y3, BIOD99Y3 & BIOD95H3 course website: Research in Biology (along with links to your other courses that have their website on the U of T Portal).

General course information & schedule of classes, course materials and important announcements will be posted on the Blackboard (Portal) site for this course. There will also be a discussion board for students to share ideas about their research projects or ask each for experimental reagents or advice. The final presentation schedule for D98/99 students will be posted on this site in the winter term as will any changes to the tutorial schedule. Please make sure to check this site frequently for updates.

Evaluation:

Mentor/advisor: evaluates your lab/literature research skills, your level of dedication to your project, your intellectual contribution to project development, your lab meeting presentations/contributions, your final thesis paper and your final oral presentation (oral presentation & lab meetings are for D98/99 only) = **70%** of your final grade. A breakdown of your mentor's evaluation should have been provided to you as part of the departmental form for BIOD5/98/99. If you did not obtain a copy, you can request one from Gloria Luza in SW 420B.

Course instructors: evaluates your participation and attendance at tutorial sessions = **10%** of your final grade in the course; evaluates your final thesis research paper and oral presentation (oral presentation for D98/99 only) = **20%** of your final grade in the course.

Submission of papers to Turnitin:

Students will be asked to submit their papers to Turnitin.com for a review of textual similarity and detection of possible plagiarism. In doing so, students will allow their papers to be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database, where they will be used solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. The terms that apply to the University's use of the Turnitin.com service are described on the Turnitin.com web site: (<http://www.utoronto.ca/ota/turnitin/ConditionsofUse.html>)

Turnitin.com is most effective when used by all students; however, if and when students object to its use on principle, the course offers a reasonable offline alternative. The student will then be asked to meet with the course instructor to outline and discuss the report before its final submission to demonstrate the process of creating the report according to the academic integrity policy.

Important dates to note:

D98 & D99 Research Paper/thesis due date: **April 6, 2018 by 4pm**. Note that a **20% penalty per day (20% of your final grade in the course)** will apply if paper is late.

D95 Research Paper/thesis due dates: **Dec 4, 2017 by 4pm (Fall); April 6, 2018 by 4pm (Winter)**.

Note that a 20% (of your final grade in the course) penalty per day will apply if paper is late.

D98 & D99 Departmental presentations: –Date, Schedule & Location TBA; **likely Monday, April 9th, 2018**. Please check blackboard for future announcements.

Course staff:**Instructors:**

Fall: Dr. Ivana Stehlik

Office hours: by appointment → ivana.stehlik@utoronto.ca

Office location: SW 563C

Winter: Dr. Aarthi Ashok

Office hours: by appointment → aashok@utsc.utoronto.ca

Office location: SW 521D

TA (Fall & Winter): Terrence Chang

Office hours by appointment: terrence.chang@mail.utoronto.ca, TA will be present at all sessions outlined below.

COURSE SCHEDULE 2017-2018:

DATE (Fall 2017) HW214 2-3 PM	DISCUSSION TOPIC	Mandatory attendance for:
Tue, SEP 12 (AA)	Course Introduction / Expectations / Learning goals	D98 & D99*
Tue, SEP 19 (AA)	Case studies discussion	D98 & D99*
Tue, Sep 26 (IS & library)	How to access information as a scientist	D95 & D98 & D99*
Tue, OCT 3 (IS & Writing Centre)	Critical reading, note-taking and the writing process	D95 & D98 & D99*
Tue, OCT 17 (AA)	Thesis Writing	D95 & D98 & D99*
Tue, OCT 24 (IS, AA, TC)	Individual student consultations [Goals & Timelines sheet, including detailed list of literature readings]	D95 & D98 & D99
Tue, OCT 31 (IS, AA, TC)	Individual student consultations	D95 & D98 & D99
Tue, NOV 7 (IS, AA, TC)	Individual student consultations (if necessary)	D95 & D98 & D99
Friday, Nov 10	Deadline for submission of revised Goals & Timelines sheet Submit to TA: terrence.chang@mail.utoronto.ca	D95 & D98 & D99
Tue, NOV 21 (IS)	Critiquing Introductions: peer review	D95 & D98 & D99
Tuesday, Nov 28th	Deadline for submission of improved Introductions Submit to TA: terrence.chang@mail.utoronto.ca	D95 & D98 & D99
MONDAY, Dec 4th	Deadline: D95 Research Paper by 4PM (20% penalty per day of your final grade in course will apply if paper is late)	D95
DATE (WINTER 2018) HW214 2-3 PM	DISCUSSION TOPIC	
Tue, JAN 9 (IS & library)	D95 student only: Course expectations & accessing information	D95
Tue, JAN 16 (AA)	D95 students only: Note-taking and the writing your paper	D95
Tuesday, JAN 23 (AA)	Critiquing Abstracts: peer review	D95 & D98 & D99
Tuesday, Jan 30	Deadline for submission of improved Abstracts Submit to TA: terrence.chang@mail.utoronto.ca	D95 & D98 & D99
Tue, FEB 6 (IS, AA, TC)	Individual student consultations [Paper outline & results (or anticipated results) sketch up]	D95 & D98 & D99
Tue, FEB 13 (IS, AA, TC)	Individual student consultations	D95 & D98 & D99
Tue, FEB 27 (IS, AA, TC)	Individual student consultations (if necessary)	D95 & D98 & D99
Tuesday, March 6	Deadline to submit FINAL paper outlines with sketch up of results (or anticipated results) and details of data analysis to be performed Submit to TA: terrence.chang@mail.utoronto.ca	D95 & D98 & D99
Tue, March 13 (IS)	Presentation skills	D98 & D99*
Tue, March 27 (TC)	Special office hours with TA (Optional for all) Q & A about thesis writing/ practice presentations	D95 & D98 & D99
FRIDAY, April 6th	Deadline: D95/D98/D99 Research Paper by 4PM (20% penalty per day of your final grade in course will apply if paper is late)	D95 & D98 & D99
MONDAY, April 9 th (AA, IS, TC)	D98/99 Presentation Day & BioBURP awards (All day; location TBD)	D98 & D99

*Not required for D99 students who have completed a D98 in the Fall/Winter terms. Mandatory for D99 students who have completed a D98 in the Summer term.