Classes will meet once a week on Tuesday from 2:30 – 5:20 pm in ETB-414. The course will be a combination of lectures and a journal club involving a series of presentations by students on topics assigned by the course instructor. The seminars will primary focus on recent high-impact papers from top journals so that the students become familiar with the “leading edge” in terms of various aspects of analytical chemistry and assay development.

MARKING SCHEME

Oral Presentations (PPT) (3 each @ 25 marks each) 75%
Course participation (class discussion during presentations) 25%
Final Oral Exam (immediately following Week 12 presentations) 0%

All seminars will be marked by both the instructor and the students. The final mark will be based on 80% of the instructor mark and 20% of the average student mark. Providing evaluations and asking questions of presenters is the basis of the Course Participation mark.

The instructor and university reserve the right to modify elements of the course during the term. The university may change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances. If either type of modification becomes necessary, reasonable notice and communication with the students will be given with explanation and the opportunity to comment on changes. It is the responsibility of the student to check their McMaster email and course websites weekly during the term and to note any changes.

Tentative Schedule

Jan 5 - Week 1 (this week): Overview of course and facility tours
Jan 12 - Week 2: Overview of various analytical methods; hand out papers (3 hrs)
Jan 19 – Week 3: Assays and HTS; additional analytical methods; Hand out papers
Jan 26 - Week 4: Journal club on topics assigned by JDB (5 student presentations)
Feb 2 - Week 5: Journal club on topics assigned by JDB (5 student presentations)
Feb 9 - Week 6: Advanced LC and MS methods, cell based assays; Handout papers
Feb 16 – NO CLASS (READING WEEK)
Feb 23 - Week 7: Journal Club (5 student presentations)
Mar 2 - Week 8: Journal Club (5 student presentations)
Mar 9 – Week 9: Advanced Biosensor Technologies; approval of student-selected papers
Mar 16 -Week 10: Journal Club (5 student presentations); discussion of student-selected papers
Mar 23 - Week 11: Journal Club (5 student presentations); discussion of student-selected papers
Mar 30 - Week 12: Final Oral Exam
April 6 – Week 13: NO CLASS – Brennan in France
POLICIES RELATED TO MISSED OR LATE WORK:
Students who fail to complete a task in the assigned timeframe must have a documented reason that is valid according to the University Policy established and accepted by the McMaster Senate. Documentation should be submitted to the Dean of Science Office and the student should contact the instructor to make him aware of their absence(s).
Students who fail to present a seminar without adequate documentation will receive a mark of zero for the seminar. Missing a seminar as a result of illness will result in the seminar being rescheduled.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:
Attention to all students is drawn to the Academic Integrity Policy as found in the Senate Policy Statements distribution at registration and available on the Senate Office’s web site (http://www.mcmaster.ca/senate/academic/ac_integrity.htm). This policy is new as of last year and took effect May 1, 2003. The following is a definition of academic dishonesty taken from the University Policy referred to above:

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY – Definition
Academic Dishonesty is not qualitatively different from other types of dishonesty. It consists of misrepresentation by deception or by other fraudulent means. In an academic setting this may include any number of forms such as: copying or the use of unauthorized aids in tests, examinations and laboratory reports; plagiarism, i.e., the submission of work that is not one's own or for which previous credit has been obtained, unless the previously submitted work was presented as such to the instructor of the second course and has been acceptable for credit by the instructor of that course; aiding and abetting another student's dishonesty giving false information for the purposes of gaining admission or credit; giving false information for the purposes of obtaining deferred examinations or extension of deadlines; and/or forging or falsifying McMaster University documents.
For a fuller definition and examples, please refer to Appendix 3 of the Academic Integrity Policy.

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