



Course Syllabus: Advanced Topics in Plant Science - PS 390

Division	Biological and Environmental Sciences & Engineering Division
Course Number	PS 390
Course Title	Advanced Topics in Plant Science
Academic Semester	Spring
Academic Year	2017/2018
Semester Start Date	01/28/2018
Semester End Date	05/24/2018
Class Schedule (Days & Time)	10:30 AM - 12:00 PM Mon Thu

Instructor(s)				
Name	Email	Phone	Office Location	Office Hours
Salim Al-Babili	Salim.Babili@KAUST.EDU.S A	+966128082565		I can be contacted any time by e-mail: salim.babili@kaust.edu.sa Office: 3237 in Building 2. Phone: 8082565

Teaching Assistant(s)	
Name	Email

Course Information	
Comprehensive Course Description	The course reviews current topics in plant sciences, particularly relying on scientific journal publications to provide case studies, illustrative examples, classic studies, and controversial findings pertinent to specific fields within plant sciences. The course will feature an emphasis on primary literature searches, reading and assessment of primary literature. It is expected that the student reads no less than 5 scientific papers per week in the prescribed topic area and is capable of presenting and critically discussing the content of these publications. In this level 300 course, the student assessment is based on active participation in the lectures and tutorials.
Course Description from Program Guide	The course reviews current topics in bioscience, particularly relying on scientific journal publications to provide case studies, illustrative examples, classic studies, and controversial findings pertinent to specific fields within biosciences. The course will feature an emphasis on primary literature searches, reading and assessment of primary literature. It is expected that the student reads no less than 5 scientific papers per week in the prescribed topic area and is capable of presenting and critically discussing the content of these publications. In this level 300 course, the student assessment is based on active participation in the lectures and tutorials.
Goals and Objectives	The course aims at providing in-depth knowledge in special topics of Plant Science.
Required Knowledge	Basic knowledge in Plant Science and fields related to the selected topic.
Reference Texts	To be provided by the instructor, depending on the topic.
Method of evaluation	50.00% - Presentation 50.00% - Written report

Nature of the assignments	The students will be assessed on their bi-weekly written assignments (50%). In addition each student will present a core topic as part of the program seminar series (25%). The students will also present a scientific review article on a recent topic fully formatted according to the instructions 'to authors' of a highly regarded journal of the life sciences (25%). Course work will generally comprise >3 hours/week made up of tutorials and laboratory exercises depending on the research topic.
Course Policies	Absence needs approval of the instructor.
Additional Information	

Tentative Course Schedule

(Time, topic/emphasis & resources)

Week	Lectures	Topic
1	Mon 01/29/2018 Thu 02/01/2018	Full semester: Reading of the primary literature commensurate with the topic. Discussions and Presentations will be scheduled during the course.
2	Mon 02/05/2018 Thu 02/08/2018	NA
3	Mon 02/12/2018 Thu 02/15/2018	NA
4	Mon 02/19/2018 Thu 02/22/2018	NA
5	Mon 02/26/2018 Thu 03/01/2018	NA
6	Mon 03/05/2018 Thu 03/08/2018	NA
7	Mon 03/12/2018 Thu 03/15/2018	NA
8	Mon 03/19/2018 Thu 03/22/2018	NA
9	Mon 03/26/2018 Thu 03/29/2018	NA
10	Mon 04/02/2018 Thu 04/05/2018	NA
11	Mon 04/09/2018 Thu 04/12/2018	NA
12	Mon 04/16/2018 Thu 04/19/2018	NA
13	Mon 04/23/2018 Thu 04/26/2018	NA
14	Mon 04/30/2018 Thu 05/03/2018	NA
15	Mon 05/07/2018 Thu 05/10/2018	NA
16	Mon 05/14/2018 Thu 05/17/2018	NA
17	Mon 05/21/2018 Thu 05/24/2018	NA
18		NA

Note

The instructor reserves the right to make changes to this syllabus as necessary.