

Guidelines for Biochemistry 905

There are two goals for this course. The first is to discuss papers describing recent progress in protein structure and function. The second is to provide an opportunity to learn how to present scientific information to one's peers. This is very important if you intend to get a job after completing your degree. The following guidelines will help in the preparation for your seminar.

1. Your talk should be 35-40 minutes in length. This will allow time at the end for questions. **It should not be shorter than 35 minutes.**
2. The talk should start with an introduction that places the paper to be discussed in a wider context.
3. The talk should end with a summary. This should include a clear presentation of what this paper adds to our knowledge of protein structure and function.
4. The article should be viewed as a starting point for your seminar. It is expected that you will review the literature to see if any more recent papers have emerged. If new work has been published, this should be included in the presentation. In all situations, it will be necessary to refer to additional publications to provide a suitable introduction.
5. **An abstract of the talk should be prepared that includes a summary of the paper to be discussed, the major conclusions of your talk, and a list of references.**
6. **The use of Powerpoint is required; however try to vary the appearance of the slides and do not try to be too fancy. Think about your choice of colors. Red on green or blue does not work. Colors will look different when projected compared to their appearance on your monitor. Arial is a great font.**
7. **Keep the power point presentations simple!!!!!! Movies, active graphics, or timed presentations often do not transfer between computers.**
8. Talk to the back of the class. Do not mumble at the board or at the overhead projector.
9. If you intend to miss more than one class during the semester, please tell me. Attendance is not optional.
10. **Remember class starts at 12:05 pm**
11. If your presentation includes mathematical formulae, these should be explained fully.
12. A good presentation always needs to be rehearsed, if only to check its length and quality of the visual aids.
13. This is not a group meeting. You will be talking to a diverse audience. This should be kept in mind when preparing the seminar.

14. If the paper is a "Dog", feel free to expand the scope of the talk to include a competing, more worthwhile, contribution to the literature.

15. Remember - Practice your talk! Talk Slowly.