

BioS 532 – Ecology and Evolution II - Spring 2014
Miquel Gonzalez-Meler and Robie Mason-Gamer
Tu-Th 9:30-10:50, SEL 1027

- January 14 — Robie Mason-Gamer and Miquel Gonzalez-Meler - Intro
January 16 — Robie Mason-Gamer and Miquel Gonzalez-Meler - Proposals
January 21 — Rachel Poretsky – Microbial Diversity and Discovery
January 23 — Rachel Poretsky – Next-Generation Sequencing Technology
January 28 — *Rachel Poretsky – postponed due to weather*
January 30 — *Rachel Poretsky – postponed due to new baby*
February 4 — Robie Mason-Gamer and Miquel Gonzalez-Meler - Posters
February 6 — Miquel Gonzalez-Meler – Ecosystem Ecology
February 11 — Miquel Gonzalez-Meler – Ecosystem Ecology
February 13 — Miquel Gonzalez-Meler – Ecosystem Ecology
February 18 — Miquel Gonzalez-Meler – Journal Club
February 20 — Chris Whelan (Illinois Natural History Survey) – Potential Ecological Impacts of Rail
Transportation Corridors: Applied Ecology and Working with Stakeholder Groups
February 25 — Robie Mason-Gamer and Miquel Gonzalez-Meler – Job Search
February 27 — Robie Mason-Gamer – Systematics 1: Broader Relevance
March 4 — Robie Mason-Gamer – Systematics 2: Within Biology
March 6 — Robie Mason-Gamer – Research Focus
March 11 — Robie Mason-Gamer – Paper Discussions 1
March 13 — Robie Mason-Gamer – Paper Discussions 2
March 18 — Hormoz BassiriRad
March 20 — Hormoz BassiriRad
March 24–28 — Spring Break
April 1 — Microbial Ecology Paper Discussion
April 3 — TBA
April 8 — Max Berkelhammer (Earth and Environmental Sciences) – Dendrochronology
April 10 — Robie Mason-Gamer and Miquel Gonzalez-Meler – Bad Science
April 15 — Boris Igic
April 17 — Boris Igic
April 22 — Boris Igic
April 24 — Boris Igic - Discussion
April 29 — Presentations
May 1 — Presentations
May 5–9 (Final Exam Week) — Proposal due May 7

Assignments

Written research proposal (40%), following NSF Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant format (examples provided): 5–8 single-spaced pages (includes figures and tables, but not references).

- Preliminary proposals due on Thursday, March 20th at 5:00 PM. Send it by e-mail as a pdf file. The background (including citations) should be largely complete. Include at least an outline of main questions/hypotheses and approaches; level of detail will depend on the stage of your research planning.
- Schedule a 20-minute meeting with Robie and/or Miquel between March 31st and April 4th to discuss preliminary proposal.
- Final proposal due Wednesday, May 7th.

Posters and in-class poster presentation (30%) based on proposed research. Posters will be projected rather than printed, and accompanied by a 10-minute presentation of the proposed research. Up to fifteen minutes for questions will follow each presentation.

- Presentations will take place during the last two days of the semester (April 29th and May 1st).
- Poster files will be due **by noon** on the day before your presentation.

Paper discussions (20%) based on journal articles selected by faculty or by you. Discussion leaders will be assigned [ahead of time]; everyone will be expected to contribute to each discussion. Everyone is required to send written comments **by 5:00 PM** the day before the paper discussion. Send them in pdf format; we will merge them into one document and post them by 5:30. Faculty participants will have access to the comments.

Individual web site (10%) to be linked to the E&E grad student list. (For examples, see <http://www.uic.edu/labs/eegroup/gradstudents.shtml>). If you do not have an individual research site, you will make one. If you already have one, you will make sure the content and links are fully updated to reflect your current work and plans.

- Live URLs due by April 12th.
- Sites will be linked to the department's E&E grad student page on or before April 19th.

NOTABLE DATES

3/20 - Preliminary proposals due
4/12 – Live URLs to Robie and Miquel
4/18 – Live URLs linked to departmental web page
4/28, 4/30 – Poster files due (noon on day before presentation)
4/29, 5/1 – Presentations
5/7 – Proposals due