

MASC 705 How to Give a Seminar (Science Communication)
(F15, 1 credit)
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Instructor:

Adrian Marchetti
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Meeting Times and Locations:

MASC 705 is held on Mondays from 2:30-4:25pm in G201 Murray-Venable Hall.

Prerequisites: None

Course Description: *How to Give a Seminar* is a professional development course designed for graduate students in the UNC-Chapel Hill Department of Marine Sciences. The course provides guidance and instruction on how to prepare and deliver oral scientific seminars as well as increase effectiveness of other forms of scientific communication. The approach is in three steps: (1) seminar preparation and delivery overview is given by the course instructor at the beginning of the semester; (2) during the first half of the semester, each student prepares and delivers a 15-minute seminar on a science topic to the class, after which the class (enrolled students and instructor) provide an evaluation and feedback to the speaker on aspects of the presentation, both positive input and constructive critique; (3) during the latter half of the semester, each student gives his/her 15-minute seminar again, which will be a revised version of the talk that takes into account the feedback on the earlier presentation.

Course Material: All course materials will be made available on Sakai. Student presentations will also be posted. Please send the instructor your presentation slides via e-mail at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled time of your talk so that they can be uploaded on Sakai. All discussion papers and links to videos will also be made available on Sakai.

Evaluation: The course grade (H, P, L or F) for each student is awarded by the instructor and is based on the student's overall seminar performance, especially how well the second talk was improved from the first talk by the student incorporating comments from the class given after the first seminar. Your participation in the class (e.g. providing constructive evaluation and feedback of talks and contributing to discussions) will also contribute towards your final grade in the course.

Student Responsibilities: All work done in this class must be carried out within the letter and spirit of the UNC Honor Code (see link below). You are also responsible for consulting with me if you are unclear about the meaning of plagiarism or about whether any particular act on your part constitutes plagiarism. Please talk to me if you have any questions about how the Honor Code pertains to this course. <http://gpsf.unc.edu/files/2013/02/Honor-System-Orientation-Presentation.pdf>

Feedback: Your feedback on how the course is progressing is important to me. At any time throughout the semester I encourage you to provide me with feedback regarding any aspects of the course. There will also be an anonymous online evaluation at the end of the semester to allow you to provide structured feedback.