

EEB 507 – 2nd & 4th Year Grad Student Presentations – Spring 2018

Organizer: Randy Small, rsmall@utk.edu, 974-3065

Meeting time & place: Friday, 9:05 – 9:55 am, 488 Dabney

Objectives:

The purpose is to give 2nd & 4th year graduate students an opportunity to present their research to the department in a relatively relaxed atmosphere. Students have the chance to practice their presentation development and delivery skills, to provide feedback to other students on their presentations, and to share their research with the rest of the department. Giving a good research talk is a very important skill – take this opportunity to hone your abilities.

Format:

Every Friday morning there will be talks by one or two students. Presentations should be prepared as if they were to be given at a national meeting, with 15-20 minutes per presentation, followed by 5 minutes for questions. A digital projector is available in 488 Dabney – students are free to use their own laptop or arrange to borrow one from the department, but please make these arrangements ahead of time so things go smoothly on Friday mornings. Presentation schedule will be determined via a doodle poll. Please don't reuse an old talk – take the time to develop a presentation on something new. Ask a classmate to introduce you, and give them the necessary background information.

Feedback to presenter:

Rubrics for providing feedback to each presenter will be available at each meeting. Students should use these to provide anonymous and constructive feedback to fellow students about what worked well and what didn't in their talk. Additionally, Randy will provide more detailed feedback to each presenter. It's encouraged that students' faculty mentors also attend the talks and provide feedback. The talk will be video-recorded, and the resulting video made available **ONLY TO THE STUDENT**. Students are encouraged to read comments from students and faculty and then watch their presentation to help spot what was done well and what could be improved.

Evaluation & grades:

The course is graded as "Satisfactory" or "No Credit." You will be evaluated based on attendance and participation, both in giving a talk and in asking questions & providing feedback. You will not receive a specific grade for your presentation.

Other stuff...

Every student should keep a notebook for taking notes on seminars they attend, both EEB 507 and other departmental seminars. Take notes on both the content of the seminars you watch, and also on what presentation methods work well, or not.

In addition to the talks themselves, this seminar series has usually been a good departmental social opportunity. Coffee will be provided starting around 8:45 am and the talks will start at 9:05. In the past students have signed up to bring breakfast snacks like bagels or muffins on different days than they day they're giving a talk. Assuming you wish to carry on that tradition we will make a doodle poll for that as well.