

Natural Resource Science Seminar

Final Seminars – NRSC 651/754

COURSE OUTLINE – Fall 2016

Prerequisite: NRSC 644/753
Time/Room: TBD
Coordinator: Dr. Sebastien Faucher (MS3-034; sebastien.faucher2@mcgill.ca)

Course description:

Graduate students in the Department of Natural Resource Sciences are required to give one Departmental Seminar towards the end of their program (i.e., their final, one-credit, graduate seminar). This seminar is for students to present the main findings from your research activities, with an emphasis on presenting the context of the research, main objectives, research methods and results, and a discussion of the implications of main results as related to the larger research context.

The final seminars will be coordinated by the instructor and be organized as a "research symposium" at the end of each semester. This final seminar will be Departmental-wide, and will offer students a longer-format (e.g., 25 minutes for M.Sc. students, 50 minutes for Ph.D. students) to present their final research results. The actual length of time, per seminar, will be determined by the instructor depending on the final number of students registered for the course. The final schedule will be determined by the middle of the semester, and posted on the Departmental website (URL to be determined). The symposium will be analogous to a scientific conference - there will be a published (on-line) program, a chairperson, strict adherence to time limits, and opportunities for a question/answer period. **It is important to recognize that the audience for this symposium will come from many different disciplines**, so the seminar must be presented in a way that balances the discipline-specific findings with a more general, and broad message.

All members of the Department (Academic staff, post-docs, graduate students, etc), regardless of their registration in the seminar course, are expected to attend the final research symposium.

Learning Objectives:

- 1) Allow graduate students finishing their research to present their research results to the Department
- 2) Provide an opportunity for graduate students to present their final research results in a manner suitable for a broad, interdisciplinary audience
- 3) Allow students to experience delivering a research seminar in a conference-style atmosphere
- 4) Experience peer evaluation of the presentation of others

Graduate students registered in the Fall 2016 term must e-mail the coordinator with the following information, before Thursday October 6: Name, Supervisor(s), Degree type (M.Sc., Ph.D.), Tentative seminar title, and any significant time conflict during the first two week of December, 2016.

Evaluation

1. Abstract: 20%
2. Oral Presentation: 60%
3. Attendance to seminars: points deduced (see below)

1. Abstract

The abstract must be divided in four sections: Introduction, Hypotheses and Objectives, Methodologies and Results, and Conclusion. Abstract must be submitted on My Course no later than a week before your scheduled presentation. Late submission will received the mark of 0.

2. Oral presentation:

The oral presentation should consist on an introduction to your research topics, your hypothesis and objectives and the results you have obtained. Be careful to explain the methodologies use, so others can understand the results. Finish with a discussion of the results and implication for your field of research.

3. Attendance to seminars:

You must attend the seminars of your colleagues. The seminar evaluation form is to be completed for each presentation and **submitted on My Course within 24 hours**. This form confirms your attendance to the seminar. **Special seminars will also be scheduled during the semester. Attendance to special seminars is also mandatory.** Your attendance will be used to adjust your final grade as shown in the following table. For example, if you received a mark of 15/20 for abstract and 75/80 for the oral presentation but you only attend 81% of all seminars, your final grade will be 80% (A-).

Attendance	Points deduced from final grade
91-100%	No point deduced
81-90%	10% deduced
71-80%	20% deduced
61-70%	40% deduced
60% and below	55% deduced (fail)

Note: Non-resident students will be accommodated on a case-by-case basis. Please contact the coordinator as soon as possible.

Schedule (tentative):

Sept. 8	Welcome session MS2-022
Sept. 15	Attend FAES seminar “Ethics and Safety”, 10:00, in R2-045
Sept. 22	Attend FAES seminar “Ethics and Safety”, 10:00, in R2-045
Sept. 29	Instruction on oral and poster presentation
Oct. 6	Attend Research Progress / Topic seminars (R3-037 or R3-035)
Oct. 13	Attend Research Progress / Topic seminars (R3-037 or R3-035)
Oct. 20	Attend Research Progress / Topic seminars (R3-037 or R3-035)
Oct. 27	Attend Research Progress / Topic seminars (R3-037 or R3-035)
Nov. 3	Attend Research Progress / Topic seminars (R3-037 or R3-035)
Nov. 10	Attend Proposal Seminars (R3-038)
Nov. 17	Attend Proposal Seminars (R3-038)
Nov. 24	Attend Proposal Seminars (R3-038)
Dec.1	Attend Proposal Seminars (R3-038)
Dec. 8	Attend Proposal Seminars (R3-038)
TBD (in Dec.)	Posters

The Deputy Provost (Student Life and Learning) recommends that all course outlines contain the following statement:

"In the event of extraordinary circumstances beyond the University's control, the content and/or evaluation scheme in this course is subject to change"

Senate requires the following statements to appear on all course outlines:

"McGill University values academic integrity. Therefore, all students must understand the meaning and consequences of cheating, plagiarism and other academic offences under the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures (see www.mcgill.ca/students/srr/honest/ for more information)."

"In accord with McGill University's Charter of Students' Rights, students in this course have the right to submit in English or in French any written work that is to be graded."

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