

IMPORTANT: This syllabus form should be submitted to OAA (gsbs_academic_affairs@uth.tmc.edu) a week before the start of each semester.

NOTE to STUDENTS: If you need any accommodations related to attending/enrolling in this course, please contact one of the Graduate School's 504 Coordinators, Cheryl Spitzenberger or Natalie Sirisaengtaksin. We ask that you notify GSBS in advance (preferably at least 3 days before the start of the semester) so we can make appropriate arrangements.

<p>Term and Year: Summer 2025</p> <p>Course Number and Course Title: GS03 1111: Scientific Writing for Grant Proposals</p> <p>Credit Hours: 1</p> <p>Meeting Location: Hybrid</p> <p>Building/Room#: MSB B.621</p> <p>WebEx/Zoom Link: https://uthealth.zoom.us/j/99108630191 (Dr. Gorfe) https://uthealth.zoom.us/j/94118120906 (Dr. Zhu)</p>	<p>Program Required Course: Yes</p> <p>Approval Code: Yes</p> <p>(If yes, the Course Director or the Course Designee will provide the approval code.)</p> <p>Audit Permitted: Yes</p> <p>Classes Begin: June 2, 2025</p> <p>Classes End: July 17, 2025</p> <p>Final Exam Week: N/A</p>				
<p>Class Meeting Schedule: NOTE: All lectures are in person and Workshops are online.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Day</th> <th>Time</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Monday and Thursday</td> <td>10:00 11:30 a.m.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Day	Time	Monday and Thursday	10:00 11:30 a.m.
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<p>Course Director Name and Degree: Xiaodong Cheng, PhD Title: Professor Department: Integrative Biology and Pharmacology Institution: UTHealth Houston Email Address: xiaodong.cheng@uth.tmc.edu Contact Number: 713-500-7487</p> <p>Course Co-Director/s: Name and Degree: Alemayehu (Alex) Gorfe, PhD Title: Professor Department: Integrative Biology and Pharmacology Institution: UTHealth Houston</p>	<p>Instructor/s</p> <p>1. Xiaodong Cheng, PhD Name and Degree Institution UTHH Email Address: xiaodong.cheng@uth.tmc.edu</p> <p>2. Alemayehu (Alex) Gorfe, PhD Name and Degree Institution: UTHH Email Address: alemayehu.g.abebe@uth.tmc.edu</p> <p>3. Michael Zhu, PhD Name and Degree Institution: UTHH Email Address: michael.x.zhu@uth.tmc.edu</p>				

<p>Name and Degree: Michael Zhu, PhD</p> <p>Title: Professor</p> <p>Department: Integrative Biology and Pharmacology</p> <p>Institution: UTHealth Houston</p> <p>Email Address: amichael.x.zhu@uth.tmc.edu</p> <p>Contact Number: 713-500-7538</p> <p>NOTE: Office hours are available by request. Please email me to arrange a time to meet.</p> <p>Teaching Assistant:</p> <p>N/A Name and Email Address</p>	
<p>Course description:</p> <p>“Scientific Writing For Grant Proposals” is a one credit mini-course offered every summer term which will fulfill the GSBS writing requirement. The class will meet twice per week. Subject matter will include formal lectures about writing the major sections of an NIH fellowship, and workshops to go over student submissions. The final classes will be mock study sections with peer review. This course may be most useful for second year students preparing for their qualifying examination and potential fellowship applications.</p>	
<p>Textbook/Supplemental Reading Materials (if any)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A 	
<p><u>Course Objective/s:</u></p> <p>Upon successful completion of this course, students will learn the craft of grantsmanship. Learn what it means to develop a research project that is significant, innovative and feasible.</p> <p><i>Specific Learning Objectives:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Learn the components and content of an NIH fellowship. 2. Learn to effectively write each of the major sections of a predoctoral fellowship. 3. Develop critical thinking skills and how to effectively transmit ideas onto paper. 4. Learn how to provide effective feedback on peers’ grants and to participate in a study section. 5. Learn how to respond to critiques of your proposal and revising it to make it better. 	

Student responsibilities and expectations:**Course Requirements**

The course will be graded Letter Grade (A-F) . Grading will be determined by attendance, timely submission of grant subsections, and active participation in class. If a student is not able to attend a class, Dr. Cheng or Dr. Gorfe, or Dr. Zhu *must* be notified ahead of time.

Assignments

- Specific Aims (SA) section: due on June 9 (Monday) by 5 pm
- Revised SA section: due on June 19 (Tues) by 5 pm
- Significance, Innovation, and Rigor (SIR) section: due on June 23 (Fri) by 5 pm
- Revised SIR section: due on June 28 (Sat) by 5 pm
- Approach section: due on July 5 (Sat) by 5 pm
- Full proposal: due on July 10 (Thurs) by 5 pm

Grading System: Letter Grade (A-F)**Student Assessment and Grading Criteria :**

Percentage	Description
Homework (40%)	Submission of complete grant subsections on time
Presentation (20 %)	Submission of complete grant subsections on time
Workshop or Breakout-Session (20 %)	Attendance & active participation in Breakout-sessions
Participation and/or Attendance (20 %)	Class attendance and active participation in workshops

CLASS SCHEDULE

Date	Duration (Hour(s) taught by lecturer)	Lecture Topic	Lecturer/s
Monday, June 2	1.5 hrs.	Lecture 1/2: Course Introduction; Specific Aims (SA)	Cheng
Thursday, June 5	1.5 hrs.	Lecture 3: Significance, Innovation, and Rigor (SIA)	Cheng
Monday, June 16	1.5 hrs.	SA Workshop #1	Gorfe/Zhu/Cheng
Monday June 23	1.5 hrs.	SA Workshop #2	Gorfe/Zhu/Cheng
Thursday June 26	1.5 hrs.	Lecture 4: Approach	Cheng
Monday June 30	1.5 hrs.	SIR Workshop #1	Gorfe/Zhu/Cheng
Thursday July 3	1.5 hrs.	SIR Workshop #2	Gorfe/Zhu/Cheng
Monday, July 7	1.5 hrs.	Approach Workshop	Gorfe/Zhu/Cheng
Thursday, July 10	1.5 hrs.	Lecture 5/6: Biosketch; Training Plan	Cheng
Monday July 14	1.5 hrs.	Mock Study Section	Gorfe/Zhu/Cheng
Thursday, July 17	1.5 hrs.	Mock Study Section (if necessary)	Gorfe/Zhu/Cheng