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.

Term and Year: Summer 2023

Course Number and Course Title:

GS03 1111: Scientific Writing for Grant Proposals

Credit Hours: 1

Meeting Location: Virtual

Building/Room#:

WebEx/Zoom Link:

Program Required Course: Yes X No

Approval Code: Yes X No

(If yes, the Course Director or the Course Designee will provide the approval code.)

Audit Permitted: Yes X No

Classes Begin: July 6

Classes End: August 10

Final Exam Week: N/A

Class Meeting Schedule

Day	Time	
Monday and Thursday	10:00 11:30 a.m.	

Course Director

Name and Degree: Xiaodong Cheng, PhD

Title: Professor

Department: Integrative Biology and Pharmacology

Institution: X UTH MDACC

Email Address: xiaodong.cheng@uth.tmc.edu

Contact Number: **713-500-7487**

Course Co-Director/s: (if any)

Name and Degree: Alemayehu (Alex) Gorfe, PhD

Title: Professor

Department: Integrative Biology and Pharmacology

Institution: X UTH MDACC

Email Address: alemayehu.g.abebe@uth.tmc.edu

Contact Number: 713-500-7538

Instructor/s (Use additional page as needed)

1. Xiaodong Cheng, PhD

Name and Degree

Institution: Integrative Biology and

Pharmacology

Email Address: xiaodong.cheng@uth.tmc.edu

2. Alemayehu (Alex) Gorfe, PhD

Name and Degree

Institution: Integrative Biology and

Pharmacology

Email Address: alemayehu.g.abebe@uth.tmc.edu

3. Michael Zhu, PhD

Name and Degree

Institution: Integrative Biology and

Pharmacology

Email Address: michael.x.zhu@uth.tmc.edu

NOTE: Office hours are available by request. Please email me to arrange a time to meet.

Teaching Assistant: (if any)

N/A

Name and Email Address

Course description:

"Scientific Writing For Grant Proposals" is a 1 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.

Textbook/Supplemental Reading Materials (if any)

• TBD

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Course Objective/s:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will ...

Specific Learning Objectives:

- 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 participate in a study section.

Student responsibilities and expectations:

Course Requirements

The course will be graded 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, Dr. Abebe or *Dr. Zhu must* be notified ahead of time.

Assignments

- Specific Aims (SA) section: due on July 10 (Mon) by 5 pm
- Revised SA section: due on July 15 (Sat) by 5 PM
- Significance, Innovation, and Rigor (SIR) section: due on July 19 (Wed) by 5 pm
- Revised SIR section: due on July 25 (Tue) by 5 pm
- Approach section: due on July 28 (Fri) by 5 pm
- Full proposal: due on August 4 (Fri) by 5 pm

Grading System: A-F

Student Assessment and Grading Criteria: (May include the following:)

Percentage	Description		
Participation and/or Attendance (40 %)	Class attendance and active participation in workshops.		
Submission of grant subsections (40 %)	The subsections must be submitted on or before the due dates and must be a full draft in accordance with the instructions presented in class.		
Written Peer Review (20 %)	Written peer review critiques and study section presentation of grants		
Midterm Exams (%)			
Final Exam (%)			
Workshop or Breakout-Session (%)			

CLASS SCHEDULE

	Duration (Hour(s)		
Date	taught by lecturer)	Lecture Topic	Lecturer/s
	- Idean City	20000000	
July	1.5 hrs.	Lecture 1/2: Course Introduction; Specific Aims (SA)	Cheng
		Lecture 3: Significance, Innovation, and Rigor	
July 1	1.5 hrs.	(SIA)	Cheng
July 1	1.5 hrs.	SA Workshop #1	Gorfe/Zhu/Cheng
July 1	1.5 hrs.	SA Workshop #2	Gorfe/Zhu/Cheng
July 2	1.5 hrs.	SIR Workshop #1	Gorfe/Zhu/Cheng
July 2	1.5 hrs.	Lecture 4: Approach	Cheng
July 2	1.5 hrs.	SIR Workshop #2	Gorfe/Zhu/Cheng
July 31	1.5 hrs.	Approach Workshop	Gorfe/Zhu/Cheng
August 3	1.5 hrs.	Lecture 5/6: Biosketch; Training Plan	Cheng
August 7	1.5 hrs.	Mock Study Section	Gorfe/Zhu/Cheng
August 10	1.5 hrs.	Mock Study Section (if necessary)	Gorfe/Zhu/Cheng

XC/jal