

Department.: Pathobiology and Veterinary Science

Course number: PVS 295W

Title: Seminar

Credits: 2

Contact Person: Dr. Richard A. French

Catalog Copy: Either or both semesters. Two credits. One class period. Prerequisite: ENGL 105 or 110 or 111 or 250 . Open only with consent of instructor. Majors may take this course in each semester of the senior year. May be repeated for credit. French

Course Information: The course is centered on the PVS Comparative Pathology Seminar Series (14 seminars by invited professionals in the biomedical field). Seminars are 50 minutes and include a wide variety of topics and are at the professional level. Students of PVS 295 W are required to attend seminars, participate in discussions following seminar and provide an abstract the following week. The abstract in not to exceed two pages. The speakers and/or the instructor provide review literature before each seminar as the subject matter can be advanced. The goal is to have the student write a concise abstract that shows a clear grasp of the subject matter and to train the student to communicate specific and often detailed information. The student will master the art of writing a unified, coherent, concise and stand alone abstract, which is understandable to the wide audience and is scientifically correct.

W Criteria : PVS 295W introduces the student to a form of writing critical to our fast paced society - the abstract. Students will write a minimum of 28 pages (2 pages/seminar). Each abstract is reviewed and edited by the instructor. Each abstract in then reviewed by the group on a 30 minute period the following week. In this case the students are also instructed on the use of editing symbols and style. This process allows students to gain form others mistakes as well as others writing style and skills. Each abstract is graded but revisions are not required. The instructor works to improve the writing with each successive seminar and abstract. The course requires the student to grasp and comprehend the science as well. In this case, literature and references are provided and the student is required to participate in discussions (percentage of grade is based on active participation suring seminars or in private sessions provided with the speaker). Grading is based on 10 of 14 abstracts and class participation/discussion. Failure to complete the written component of the course results in a failing grade.

Role of Grad Students: NA

Supplementary Information: -The PVS Comparative Pathology Seminar Series is published on the PVS website