F&N 69500 (CRN 20707) - Fuqua Graduate Seminar Series
2290 BRNG
Friday 10:30 a.m.

Instructor: Dorothy M. Morré, Ph.D. **Tel:** 494-8233
Stone G-1E **E-mail:** morredm@purdue.edu
Office hours: By appointment

The purpose of the course is to provide graduate students an opportunity to further develop and strengthen their skills in organization, preparation and presentation of scientific information relevant to nutrition and/or foods to an informed audience of students and faculty as well as constructively evaluate their peers' presentations..

Required attendance and expected participation during question/answer period. If unable to attend, must contact Dr. Morré prior to scheduled seminar to explain why. (1 credit, letter grade)
For MS students, one seminar only, may not be directed related to the thesis project.
For Ph.D. students, first seminar may not be directly related to the thesis project. **The second seminar should be directly related to the thesis topic but still not identical to the thesis defense seminar.**

The Seminar: Giving a good seminar is similar to telling a story with a clear take-home message. The basic premise is that you know something the audience does not and the purpose of your talk is to tell them about it.

I. Topic Selection: Choose a topic in basic or applied nutrition and/or foods that is of interest to you and, hopefully, your audience. This is your opportunity to investigate a research area with which you likely would otherwise not become familiar. State in the fewest possible words the title that adequately describes the content of your seminar.

II. Preparation Milestones:

- ***Within first two weeks of the semester (before semester begins for early presenters)*** **Discuss with Dr. Morré your selected topic (written).** Focus in depth on a question that pertains to some aspect of nutrition and/or foods, e.g. identify a hypothesis that can be tested experimentally or discuss the controversial issues in nutrition/foods science giving both sides of the issue (be prepared to give your opinion). Bring with you a **draft outline** of your seminar along with several relevant refereed papers that fit with your topic.

- ***Four weeks before the presentation:*** **Bring to Dr. Morré an updated detailed outline and abstract of your presentation (schedule a 30-min meeting).** Outline should be based upon the slides that will be used. Bring copies or "mock-ups" of figures you hope to use (can be handout with 2 slides/page and printed two-sided). The outline may be more expansive than the presentation that will be given.

- ***Two weeks before the presentation:*** **Show Dr. Morré the PowerPoint slides you would like to use for your presentation (schedule a 30 min meeting).** At least 50% of your slides should be something besides just text (figures, tables and/or graphs of data relevent to seminar

- ***One week before the presentation:*** Provide a one-page presentation notice to Dr. Morré. The presentation notice must contain (***sample attached***):
  - Your name and degree program (e.g., Jane Doe, MS Student)
  - The title of your presentation
  - The date, time and place of your seminar
  - A brief abstract summarizing the essential issues that your seminar will explore including relevant references. This is a "teaser" to entice people to come to your presentation.

III. Seminar Preparation:

- Begin development of the seminar weeks in advance of the presentation.
- Do adequate background review of literature in order to be knowledgeable about the subject.
- Know more about the subject than what you will present. Often the additional information is necessary for answering questions at the end of your presentation.
- Have a reasonable idea about how informed your audience will be about your topic. This will determine somewhat how much explanation will be needed especially in the introduction.
- Work closely with your major professor in developing the seminar. Practice giving the presentation to your lab group (hopefully, they are critical and not just kind) and to whomever will critically listen.
- Familiarize yourself with unfamiliar techniques or reagents by appropriate background reading to the point that you can answer basic questions on these items. Do not dwell on small details.
- Include data and interpretation of data from recent pertinent literature published in peer-reviewed journals. This requires that you explain their techniques, present their data and tell how they reached their reported conclusions.
- Reference the information from the literature you are presenting (e.g., Jones et al., 2006. Cancer Res. 62:480-480).
- Seminar Abstract effectively should summarize in a paragraph the information to be given in your seminar. The abstract should be self-contained, that is, it should not contain bibliographic, figure or table references. Avoid using obscure abbreviations and acronyms. Follow the abstract with a short list (usually 2-3) of references that are pertinent to your topic. The format of the references should follow consistently the format shown in the following examples. **A format to follow is on the following page.**

  Journal: Parsons, P.L., Shrader, R.E. and Zeman, F.J. 1976. Adrenal function in young of protein-deprived rats. J. Nutr. 106:392-404.

  Book: Munro, H.N. 1970. Free amino acid pools and their role in regulation. In: Mammalian Protein Metabolism (Munro, H.N., ed.), pp. 299-386. Academic Press, New York.

IV. Presentation

- Familiarize yourself in advance with the room and any equipment you plan to use.
- Plan to give a 40-min seminar leaving time at the end for questions and discussion.
- Begin by thanking your host and greeting your audience. Do not thank your audience at the end
- Start your seminar with a text slide showing an outline of your talk (Tell us what you plan to tell us).
- Use a pointer to guide your audience to look at relevant information on the slide, but not at the ceiling/walls, etc.
- Avoid jargon and abbreviations that will only confuse your audience.
- Refrain from reading your slides verbatim; talk to your audience
- Have only abbreviated points on your slides (not your entire presentation)
- Project confidence instead of belittling or apologizing for your topic, slides or your own performance
- If you can effectively do so, it is good to include a bit of appropriate humor but not required to do so.

IV. The final grade for the course will be based on:

Appropriateness of title and seminar outline	10%
Slide and presentation preparation	15%
Abstract with references	10%
Final Presentation (voice, pace, enthusiasm, use of visuals, appropriate length)	25%
Mastery of subject content (includes handling of questions)	25%
Attendance, evaluation of your peers' presentations **(see evaluation form),** participation in questions/discussions and summary of guest speakers' talks	15%
TOTAL	100%

Failure to meet deadlines will compromise your grade

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Breast Cancer and Vitamin A

Mary Jones
Ph.D. Student
Interdepartmental Nutrition Program
Purdue University

Friday, November 14, 2003
10:30 a.m.
2290 BRNG

Breast cancer is the most common malignancy among women. Worldwide, 10-15% of all women will be diagnosed with breast cancer during their lifetime. Growing knowledge regarding breast carcinoma biology may enhance our ability to devise targeted approaches for prevention and therapy. An appealing novel strategy for breast cancer is the use of retinoids, structural and functional analogs of vitamin A. Retinoids are effective in the prevention of breast cancer development. However, the activity is lost in patients with advanced breast cancer suggesting that there is a loss of retinoid sensitivity during the progression of a breast tumor. This seminar will focus on one of the critical genes for the development of breast cancer and inactivation mechanisms that may cause aberrant retinoid signaling and how retinoid treatment would be effective for retinoid-resistant breast cancer.

Sirchia, S.M., Ren, M., Pili, R., Sironi, E., Somerzi, G., Ghidoni, R., Toma, S., Nicolo, G. and Sacchi, N. 2002. Endogenous reactivation of the RAR beta2 tumor suppressor gene epigenetically silenced in breast cancer. Cancer Res. 62:2455-2461.

Kambhampati, S., Li, Y., Verma, A., Sassano, S., Majchrzak, B., Deb, D.K., Parmar, S., Giafis, N., Kalvakolanu, D.V., Rahman, A., Uddin, S., Minucci, S., Tallman, S.S., Fish, E.N. and Platanias, L.C. 2003. Activation of protein kinase C delta by all-trans retinoic acid. J. Biol. Chem. 278:32544-32551.