BINF 6151/8151 Professional Communication, Fall 2014 – 1 Credit
Bioinformatics 105
Fridays 2:45 – 5:15, 5 meetings
Aug 22 – Sept 26, 2014

Instructor: Ann Loraine
Office Hours: Th 10:30 – 11:30, by appointment *
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* Office hours will be on-line (GoTo Meeting) or in-person at the NCRC; please contact Dr. Loraine via email to arrange an appointment.

Catalog Description
Principles and useful techniques for effective oral presentations, poster presentations, scientific writing, use of references and avoiding plagiarism. Students in the course critique and help revise each other’s presentations and learn how to avoid common pitfalls. In addition, students learn how to properly organize and run a meeting.

Required Texts:
William Zinsser, On Writing Well
Strunk and White, Elements of Style
Slides from Kristen Sainini’s “Writing in the Sciences”, HRP 214, Stanford University

Schedule:
Meeting 1: August 22
Lecture: Introduction to the class, how to give effective oral presentations
Meeting 2: August 29
Lecture: Scientific articles, writing about research, writing about science
Meetings 3, 4, 5: September 12, 19, 26
Oral presentations

Grading Policy:
Grading: 90-100 A
80-89  B
70-79  C
<70   U

Evaluation
1. Class participation 10
2. Oral Presentation team practice 10
3. Oral Presentation in class 20
4. Oral Presentation feedback 10
5. Editing practice: fixing muddled writing 10
6. Writing practice: blog post 20
7. Editing practice: blog comments 10
8. Editing practice: blog revision 10

For due dates, please see the class moodle2 site. No late assignments accepted without prior arrangement.