

VME6934: Graduate Journal Club

Veterinary Dermatology and immunology

Class Periods: Wednesday 9.00to 10.00am, Spring and Fall semester

Location: Zoom

Academic Term: Fall 2023

Instructor:

Name: Domenico Santoro, DVM, MS, DrSc, PhD, DACVD, DECVD, DACVM

Email Address: dsantoro@ufl.edu

Office Phone Number: 352-294-4782

Office Hours: Available upon request

Credits

1 unit – Students can enroll in this course up to 4 times for credit, with the permission of the instructor and their departmental graduate coordinator

Course Description

This journal club course covers contemporary topics in veterinary and comparative dermatology and immunology by focusing on critical analysis of recently published manuscripts. The selected articles will cover aspects related to veterinary and comparative dermatology, veterinary and comparative immunology, microbiology, genetics, veterinary pathology, ecology, and epidemiology.

Course Objectives

- Identify strengths and weaknesses in the approaches utilized to test hypotheses in comparative dermatology, microbiology, immunology and epidemiology
- Develop the skills to clearly convey the literature in a manner that is comprehensible to an audience with diverse expertise
- Formulate an understanding of common themes in veterinary dermatology

Learning outcomes

- Critically review recently published research in the field of comparative dermatology, microbiology, immunology and epidemiology
- Present research in a format that is easily followed by an audience with diverse expertise

Recommended literature, software, and hardware

- Links to the papers will be provided via email
- Zoom software
- Reliable internet connection
- Properly functioning camera and microphone for presenter

Course Schedule

Week	Description	Hours of instruction
Week 1	Organizational meeting and discussion of the elements of a good presentation	1
Week 2	Journal club presentations and discussions	1
Week 3	Journal club presentations and discussions	1
Week 4	Journal club presentations and discussions	1
Week 5	Journal club presentations and discussions	1
Week 6	Journal club presentations and discussions	1
Week 7	Journal club presentations and discussions	1
Week 8	Journal club presentations and discussions	1

Veterinary Dermatology and Immunology, VME6934, Fall 2023 and Spring 2024
Domenico Santoro, DVM, MS, DrSc, PhD, DACVD, DECVD, DACVM

Week 9	Journal club presentations and discussions	1
Week 10	Journal club presentations and discussions	1
Week 11	Journal club presentations and discussions	1
Week 12	Journal club presentations and discussions	1
Week 13	Journal club presentations and discussions	1
Week 14	Journal club presentations and discussions	1
Week 15	Final journal club presentation, discussion, and course evaluation	1

Course format

In the first week, each student will be assigned a series of journals from which they need to select published papers or preprint manuscripts to present during the semester. Students will collaborate with the instructor during manuscript selection to ensure that they are high quality and relevant to the fields of study (listed in the course description). Ahead of each of the subsequent meetings, the students are required to read the research paper and be ready to actively discuss them with the group during each session. Students are expected to focus their critique on data interpretation, selection of controls, appropriateness of techniques to the experimental questions, adequacy of statistical analysis, etc. The discussion leader for each week will prepare and deliver a 30-to-40-minute presentation covering the background, relevant details, interpretation, and conclusions of the assigned papers. The discussion leader should encourage the audience to participate by providing commentary and questions throughout the presentation. Enrolled students are required to participate in each discussion (through offering verbal comments or written chat comments), and other journal club attendees, such as faculty and postdoctoral trainees, are encouraged to participate as well.

Attendance Policy, Class Expectations, and Make-Up Policy

Attendance and participation are required and will be monitored during the weekly meetings. In cases of unforeseen absences due to serious illness or emergencies, contact Dr. Domenico Santoro via email with written verification as soon as possible. Other absences must be cleared with Dr. Santoro ahead of the missed meeting. Excused absences must be consistent with university policies and require appropriate documentation. Additional information can be found here: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

Evaluation of Grades

Assignment	Total Points	Percentage of Final Grade
Discussion Leader Presentation (quality of presenter delivery)	100	40%
Participation in Group Discussion (engagement on group discussion)	100	40%
Attendance	50	20%
		100%

Grading Policy

Percent	Grade	Grade Points
90.0 - 100.0	A	4.00
87.0 - 89.9	A-	3.67
84.0 - 86.9	B+	3.33
81.0 - 83.9	B	3.00
78.0 - 80.9	B-	2.67
75.0 - 79.9	C+	2.33
72.0 - 74.9	C	2.00
69.0 - 71.9	C-	1.67
66.0 - 68.9	D+	1.33

<i>Percent</i>	<i>Grade</i>	<i>Grade Points</i>
63.0 - 65.9	D	1.00
60.0 - 62.9	D-	0.67
0 - 59.9	E	0.00

More information on UF grading policy may be found at:

[UF Graduate Catalog](#)
[Grades and Grading Policies](#)

Students Requiring Accommodations

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the [Disability Resource Center](#). It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

Course Evaluation

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. [Click here for guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner](#). Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via ufl.bluera.com/ufl/. [Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students here](#).

University Honesty Policy

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” [The Honor Code](#) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

Software Use

All faculty, staff, and students of the University are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against University policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate. We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to uphold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

Student Privacy

There are federal laws protecting your privacy with regards to grades earned in courses and on individual assignments. For more information, please see the [Notification to Students of FERPA Rights](#).

Campus Resources:

Health and Wellness

U Matter, We Care:

If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu or 352 392-1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.

Counseling and Wellness Center: counseling.ufl.edu/cwc, and 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS)

Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.

University Police Department at 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies), or police.ufl.edu.

Academic Resources

E-learning technical support, 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to Learning-support@ufl.edu.

Career Resource Center, Reitz Union, 392-1601. Career assistance and counseling.

Library Support, Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

Teaching Center, Broward Hall, 392-2010 or 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.

Writing Studio, 302 Tigert Hall, 846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.

Student Complaints Campus

On-Line Students Complaints