

CLIN*6990 Project in Clinical Studies
F,W,S
[1.00]

Calendar Description

This course involves participation in a clinical research project or clinical retrospective study. A review of the relevant literature will be performed. A manuscript suitable for publication in a peer-reviewed journal will be prepared, and the study will be presented in a departmental seminar.

Course Coordinators

Dr. Tom Gibson Ext. 54325; Room 2130; tgibson@uoguelph.ca

Instructors

Will vary depending on supervision of the coursework Masters student and area of study. The primary faculty advisor is based in the Department of Clinical Studies.

Administrative Information

Course Description

This research course is designed to expose coursework MSc students to clinical research where information is created, interpreted, and integrated with current knowledge. Further, this course aims to teach effective skills for communicating scientific information orally and in writing. The course will involve participation in active research under the guidance of a faculty advisor and supported by an Advisory Committee comprised of at least two other faculty. Students shall carry out a specific research project to its completion and, in doing so, be exposed to the entire scientific process. This course is a requirement for the coursework MSc program in the Department of Clinical Studies.

Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, students should:

1. Develop a detailed understanding of the complete scientific process and develop awareness of current clinical research techniques.
2. Conduct effective research to demonstrate a sound approach for developing a literature review in clinical research?
3. Develop the techniques and attitudes of critical thinking through evaluation of research data.

4. Master scientific writing skills by preparing a scientific manuscript suitable for publication in a peer-reviewed journal.
5. Demonstrate oral communication skills by delivering a professional presentation using computerized presentation software with content aimed at professional peers/colleagues. (Effectively prepare and deliver professional scientific presentations and posters that follow the outlined disciplinary standards)

Animal Utilization Protocols or Research Ethics Board Approvals

Some projects may require working with live animals or human volunteers. Faculty advisors are responsible obtaining the appropriate Animal Utilization Protocols (AUP) or Research Ethics Board (REB) approvals to cover the work being done by coursework MSc students under their supervision. Students are encouraged to assist with this process where possible, e.g. be designated as “assignee” for AUPs.

Evaluation

Form of Assessment

Literature Review 10% (Five page review graded by the advisory committee)

Final Paper 35% (graded by the advisory committee)

Oral Presentation 25% (graded by the advisory committee)

Effort/Progress throughout semester 30%* (graded by the advisory committee)

*The criteria for evaluation of effort/progress throughout the semester may include but is not limited to activities such as independent thought, discipline, problem solving skills, organization of time, preparation for meetings, development of technical competence, quality of laboratory notes, productivity, ability to plan, ethics and safety. The student should discuss the specific criteria for this assessment with the supervisor before the project begins.

Details on Literature Review:

A literature review summarizes, interprets and evaluates existing literature or published material in order to establish the *current* knowledge of a subject. The literature review may serve to answer question(s), establish the need for additional research, and/or define a topic of inquiry. The student should write a brief literature review (maximum 5 pages, 12 point font size, single spaced, 2.54cm margins) pertaining to their research project. The faculty advisor should be consulted during the drafting process to ensure sufficient coverage of the topic. The literature review will be due at the end of the first semester with sufficient time for a grade to be assigned, with grades due on the last day of the final exam period to the course coordinator.

Details on Final Paper:

The purpose of the final paper is to communicate your research project. The paper should be written as a scientific manuscript following the format of a peer-reviewed scientific journal of the faculty advisor's choosing and should include: title page, abstract, introduction, methods, results discussion and references. References should be in a consistent style in the format of the chosen journal. The length should be discussed between the student and the faculty advisor. The written report will be due at the end of the last semester with sufficient time for your faculty advisor to assign a grade, with grades due

the last day of the final exam period to the course coordinator.

Details on Oral Presentation:

All students registered for this course will gather at the end of the semester to present their oral presentations. The scheduling of the oral presentations will be during the final exam period with the precise date to be determined each semester. The format of the oral presentations will be a 15 minute time slot per student that must include a few minutes for questions.

Academic Misconduct

The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity and it is the responsibility of all members of the University community – faculty, staff, and students – to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring. University of Guelph students have the responsibility of abiding by the University's policy on academic misconduct regardless of their location of study; faculty, staff and students have the responsibility of supporting an environment that discourages misconduct. Students need to remain aware that instructors have access to and the right to use electronic and other means of detection.