COURSE DESCRIPTION

The goal of this course is to introduce students to the various fields and career pathways in the biotechnology and pharmaceutical industries. Fields of study include: Drug development, vaccine development, genetic and protein therapeutics, and bioinformatics. The career pathways to be introduced are: intellectual property law, venture capital, research and development within corporations as well as academia, business development, and product quality regulation.

Students will have the opportunity of learning about the industry from high profile individuals who have been invited to share their knowledge and experiences through a weekly lecture series and networking mixers. Students will also be introduced to the basics of several biotech/pharmaceutical fields by mini-lectures organized by the board of Stanford Student Biodesign and Biopharma.

Instructor: Professor Phyllis Gardner, MD (pgarder@stanford.edu)

Course sponsors: Roula El-Asmar ; Biodesign Program Manager
                Prof. Paul Yock, MD; Co-Chair Stanford School of Medicine – Bioengineering

TA: Alisha Seam (contact at ssb.course@gmail.com)

SSB TAs: Karan Mangla
        Riddhi Mittal
        Ankita Patro
        Ananth Sridhar

Website: http://ssb.stanford.edu/med275

Units: 2-3 units; see details below

GRADING POLICY AND ASSIGNMENTS

You can register for either a Credit/No Credit (2 units) or a Graded (3 units) option
Credit/No Credit Option

Credit/No Credit is based on attendance and you are allowed one unexcused seminar. If you miss more than one seminar, please do the following to make-up:
   1. Send an email to the teaching staff regarding the circumstances in advance of the seminar.
   2. Once email is received, you would be given a topic related to the seminar topics of the week for a short memo. Please submit an electronic copy of your memo in two weeks from the seminar you missed.

Letter Grade Option

Letter grade is based on both (a) attendance and (b) final project and presentation

(a) You are allowed one unexcused seminar. If you miss more than one seminar, please do the following to make-up:
   1. Send an email to the teaching staff regarding the circumstances in advance of the seminar.
   2. Once email is received, you would be given a topic related to the seminar topics of the week for a short memo. Please submit an electronic copy of your memo in two weeks from the seminar you missed.

(b) The final project and presentation can be done in groups of up to three students (we will help you form groups within the class, but individual projects will be accepted as well) and involves a 7-10 minute presentation on a topic of your choice that relates to or expands upon one of the topics introduced in this course. The topic must be approved by the course staff in advance, please email your ideas to ssb.course@gmail.com.

The date of the presentations will be the last day of class: March 10, 2008. On this day you must also submit a short supplementary document with a summary of your research and findings.

We will provide more details in class and will continue to update this page. Please feel free to email us if you have any questions.