

Course Syllabus

NFS 6350 Nutrition & Food Science Seminar

Modality: In-person

Location: Lafayette Hall, Room 311

Time: Wednesdays from 9:40am – 10:30am

Instructor information

Lecturer: Beth (Rice) Bradley, PhD (she / her; referred to as Dr. Bradley)

Office: 252 MLS Carrigan Wing / Microsoft Teams

e-mail: Beth.Bradley@uvm.edu

Office hours

Dr. Bradley holds office hours daily at 12:30pm. To meet with Dr. Bradley during office hours, please schedule an appointment using Microsoft Outlook calendar.

Course overview

NFS 350 Nutrition & Food Science Seminar is designed to engage students in scientific inquiry and aid them in developing proficiency in delivering public research seminars. Students will be given the opportunity to engage with faculty and guest presenters during public research seminars and deliver their own research progress, to-date. The course begins with a review of the scientific method, particularly the importance of communicating outcomes. Elements of a compelling research seminar will be explored, and the utility of scientific inquiry and debate will be discussed. Faculty, guest presenters and students will present current research and discuss their processes, strengths, and pitfalls during open question-and-answer periods. Upon the completion of NFS 350 students will be able to engage in scientific inquiry and deliver a research presentation.

Learning objectives

Upon the completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Engage in scientific inquiry
2. Describe their research methodology
3. Draw appropriate conclusions based on research methodology and results
4. Deliver a compelling research presentation

Grading and assignment overview

Students will be graded on in-class participation, assignments, peer-evaluations, and their research presentation. Final grades will be determined based on the following:

In-class participation	25%
Assignments	25%
Peer-evaluations	25%
Research presentation	25%

Attendance

Students are expected to attend seminar each week. If a student anticipates being unable to attend seminar, the student is expected to contact Dr. Bradley *beforehand* to discuss excused absence or virtual attendance options. Attendance is included in the in-class participation grade.

In-class participation

Students are expected to participate in seminar each week by asking questions and engaging in dialogue. In-class participation will be ensured by calling on enrolled students to ask questions or

make comments during open question-and-answer period each week. Attendance is also included in the in-class participation grade.

Assignments

Assignments are designed to help students organize their thoughts prior to giving their research presentation. Assignments will be peer-reviewed.

Peer-evaluations

Constructive criticism is invaluable when developing skill sets. Students are expected to complete peer-evaluations to help their peers recognize strengths and set goals regarding the delivery of research seminars. There will be at least five minutes set aside at the end of each seminar period to allow for completion of peer-evaluations.

Research presentation

DUE: Uploaded to Blackboard by 9am the day of the research presentation

Students are expected to hold one 40-minute seminar: 25 minutes dedicated to the delivery of a research presentation followed by 15 minutes dedicated to a question-and-answer period. Students should be prepared with digital presentation software of their choice, such as PowerPoint, Keynote, Prezi, Canva, *etc.* Students are expected to present their on-going research projects.

Student accessibility services

In keeping with University policy, any student with a documented disability interested in utilizing ADA accommodations should contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS), the office of Disability Services on campus for students. SAS works with students and faculty in an interactive process to explore reasonable and appropriate accommodations, which are communicated to faculty in an accommodation letter. All students are strongly recommended to discuss with their faculty the accommodations they plan to use in each course. Faculty who receive Letters of Accommodation with [Disability Related Flexible accommodations](#) will need to fill out the Disability Related Flexibility Agreement. Any questions from faculty or students on the agreement should be directed to the SAS specialist who is indicated on the letter.

Student rights and responsibilities

UVM student rights and responsibilities can be found [here](#).

The UVM Graduate Writing Center

The UVM Graduate Writing Center offers free one-on-one and group consultations to graduate students working on a wide range of academic and professional projects: course papers, proposals, posters, dissertations, and more. Students can meet with a graduate writing consultant in person or online via Teams at any stage of a project, from initial planning to big-picture revisions and final editing. We also offer two-part Review and Meet appointments for longer or technical drafts, Feedback by Email if you aren't able to meet with a consultant in person or online, and writing retreats. Visit uvm.edu/mywconline.net to learn more and schedule an appointment. For news about weekly virtual writing retreats and special-topic workshops, visit our website at uvm.edu/gradwriting, watch for our announcements in the Graduate College weekly newsletter, or follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/uvmgradwriting>.

UVM Student Resources

[Office of International Education](#)

[Center for Health and Wellbeing Counseling and Psychiatry Services](#)

[The Mosaic Center for Students of Color](#)

[Prism Center](#)