

Syllabus for BSE 5944

Overview

Selected presentations and discussions by graduate students and faculty - Focusing on soft professional skills for the students entering the department.

Learning Objectives

Having successfully completed this course, you will be able to:

- Familiarized with various research areas and faculty/staff members in the department
- Recognize the importance of the work environment culture, teamwork, and discipline in professional success
- Consider the ethical implications of decisions on research and academic projects and programs
- Strategically plan goals and objectives for achieving academic and project success
- Formulate and draft an effective resume
- Follow good laboratory practices
- Understand how grants and funding works to support research activities in the department
- Develop and ask/respond to thoughtful questions for probing scientific discovery
- Effectively communicate with other scientists and lay audiences about biological systems engineering research

The students are expected to attend 3 departmental seminars arranged during the semester.

The instructor will arrange for some key topics for students who are new into the program which they must attend. The topics are:

- * Graduate orientation (program of study, research prospectus)
- * Laboratory Safety; Good laboratory practices
- * Ethics in Research

- * Using Citation Manager to aid your research
- * Title IX

For those who have taken these topics, you are free to choose 5 additional topics from range of seminars offered at Virginia Tech. Students fill out a worksheet after attending a seminar to get credit for that activity.
