Biology Seminar Graduation Requirement

As part of our recent curriculum revitalization, we have implemented a requirement that students attend seminars about or related to Biology. In fulfilling this requirement, you will experience how the fundamental concepts you are learning in class are being actively investigated by experts in the field. You will also have the opportunity to explore areas of Biology you might otherwise not have the opportunity experience. We expect you to explore this exciting aspect of your major early in your time at New Paltz as such explorations will help shape your career path.

The requirement is that you attend SIX EVENTS throughout your stay at New Paltz.

We will offer numerous opportunities each year, but IT MAY NOT BE POSSIBLE TO CRAM ALL EVENTS INTO YOUR LAST SEMESTER HERE. A much better approach will be to attend 1 or 2 events every semester. Your advisor will discuss your progress towards fulfilling this requirement with you each semester.

The rules:

****Finding out about the events that “count”****

All students with declared majors in Biology or Pre-Biology will be emailed a couple of days in advance of each event. You will be given details of where, when and what will be discussed. Pay attention to emails from biology faculty with ‘fall10_MAJTBL_BIO-UG: Biology Seminar Announcement’ in the subject. The subject beginning will change depending on the subject.

In addition to the email, flyers will be posted in a couple of locations throughout CSB especially outside the Biology/Chemistry (CSB 107) main office. Faculty may also mention events in classes you are taking.

****How to make your attendance “count”****

In the advertisement for each event, the name of a faculty member will be indicated. At the event, you are to approach that faculty member, either before of after the event. You will sign your name on the sheet the faculty member provides. Your name will be entered into a spreadsheet that your advisor will have access to, so you can check how many events you’ve attended during your pre-registration meeting.

****Bad behavior****

The following things, when identified, will be considered an infringement of our academic Integrity Policy.

- Signing your name and then leaving without attending the event.
- Signing somebody else’s name.
- Signing up for an event that is required for another class (i.e. If you are registered in the EvoS Seminar course, you do not get Biology credit for attending the lectures that semester.)

****If there’s a problem****

Any and all questions, problems etc. about this system are to be directed to the Grievance Ombudsperson, Professor Jennifer Waldo. You can meet with her during office hours and she’ll assist you in finding a solution. Her office hours can be found at: www.newpaltz.edu/biology