Clinical Research Methods  
BIOL F397  
Spring 2016 - 3 credits

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Office: Murie 323D  
Office Hours: By appointment

Overview:  
Clinical research utilizes a variety of scientific approaches originally elicited from initial studies using basic science and/or pre-clinical models, or pilot studies using small clinical trials. A background and further understanding of this field will be derived from study of the scientific literature in this area.

Course Description:  
This course will focus on clinical investigation of pharmacological, surgical, nutraceutical or behavioral interventions on health and disease. Supplemental journal articles and other readings will be assigned or searched on PubMed throughout the semester.

Prerequisites:  
BIOL 214: Human Anatomy and Physiology

Course Goals:  
1. Submit at least one manuscript for publication in a peer-reviewed journal  
2. Contribute to the recruitment and enrollment of participants in clinical research trials  
3. Assist in the completion of metabolic studies as part of clinical research

Course Objectives:  
1. Ability to work with diverse populations including recruitment, enrollment and compliance monitoring.  
2. Experience in the process conducting a clinical research study from recruitment through publication

Course Calendar:  
1. Weekly mentoring as described previously  
2. 1st draft of the paper will be done by mid-term of the semester  
3. Final draft will be submitted by end of semester

Required Textbook: None; Scientific articles that are specific to the topic of interest in the field of clinical research will be assigned via Blackboard.

Instructional Methods  
1. Weekly mentoring sessions will be conducted  
2. Mentoring will include training in data interpretation and statistical analysis  
3. Analysis of writing skills will be conducted on a regular basis as part of publication
Grading: Based on the successful submission of a 1st draft (50 total points under subjective evaluation) and final submission of manuscript (50 points under subjective evaluation) to a peer reviewed scientific journal. Submission of final draft must meet the specific requirements of the selected journal and the development of the manuscript using weekly meetings.

Calculation of Grade: In brief, A= 90-100; B=80-89; C=70-79; D=65-69, F= 64 or below. Grades will represent an average of course requirements.

Honor Code and Plagiarism: Students will be expected to uphold the UAF standard of conduct for students relating to academic dishonesty. Students will assume full responsibility for the content and integrity of the academic work submitted by them during the course. For the student code or additional information, please use the following URL http://www.uaf.edu/catalog/current/academics/regs3.html

UAF Disabilities Services: The Office of Disability Services implements the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and insures that UAF students have equal access to the campus and course materials. I will work with the Office of Disabilities Services (203 WHIT, 474-7043) to provide reasonable accommodation to students with disabilities. ** If students require any assistance due to documented disability, please make the Professor award of this important need by the 2nd week of semester, and they will make the necessary accommodations.