

**University of Florida**  
**College of Public Health & Health Professions Syllabus**  
**RSD6930: The Art of Scientific Dissemination (2 credit hours)**

Spring: 2025

Delivery Format: *On-Campus*

Course Website or E-Learning: None, readings will be emailed to students

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Instructor Name: Krista Vandenborne, PT, PhD

Room Number: HPNP 1137

Phone Number: 273-6103

Email Address: [kvandenb@phhp.ufl.edu](mailto:kvandenb@phhp.ufl.edu)

Office Hours: By appointment

Preferred Course Communications: *email*

### **Prerequisites**

Rehabilitation Science PhD Student or permission of the instructor

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## **PURPOSE AND OUTCOME**

### **Course Overview**

This course will cover multiple forms of scientific communication, including poster and oral presentations. The fundamental goals are to provide doctoral students with an understanding of the art of scientific dissemination. This will include discussions of the graphical presentation of data, presenting oneself as a scholar through introductions and written communication, creating and presenting a poster, and creating and giving an oral presentation. Students will participate in all aspects of the course and will be expected to give an oral or poster presentation.

### **Relation to Program Outcomes**

This course was designed to meet a number of learning outcomes outlined in the Rehabilitation Science academic assessment plan submitted to Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) the accrediting body of the University of Florida:

- Display an understanding of the fundamental models and theories and principles underlying the discipline of Rehabilitation Science.
- Successfully design and complete a rehabilitation science research study, analyze and interpret the data.
- Display understanding of the ethics of research and exhibit ethical research conduct.

### **Course Objectives and/or Goals**

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

1. Describe how to graphically represent scientific data
2. Describe the process of creating and presenting a scientific poster
3. Describe the process of creating and presenting a scientific talk
4. Describe the process of scientific critique and the value of constructive feedback

### *What is expected of you?*

You are expected to actively engage in the course throughout the semester. You must come to class prepared by completing all out-of-class assignments. This preparation gives you the knowledge or practice needed to engage in higher levels of learning during the live class sessions. If you are not prepared for the face-to-face sessions, you may struggle to keep pace with the activities occurring in the live sessions, and it is unlikely that you will reach the higher learning goals of the course. Similarly, you are expected to actively participate in the live class. Your participation fosters a rich course experience for you and your peers that facilitates overall mastery of the course objectives.

### Course requirements

- **Attendance** at classes and rehabilitation seminars.
- **Preparation** by completing readings and assignments for class.
- **Participation** in class discussions, question/answer sessions.

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## DESCRIPTION OF COURSE CONTENT

### Topical Outline/Course Schedule

Week	Date(s)	Topic(s)	Readings
1	1/14/25	Course Introduction	Attend Rehab Seminar 1/15
2	1/21/25	Organization and Visual Presentation of Data	Attend Rehab Seminar 1/22
3	1/28/25	Components of a Poster	Attend Rehab Seminar 1/29
4	2/4/25	Structure of Talks	
5	2/11/25	NMPT Abstracts - Review of student materials	
6	2/18/25	NMPT Abstracts - Review of student materials	
7	2/25/25	NMPT Posters - Review of student materials	Attend Rehab Seminar 2/26
8	3/4/25	NMPT Posters - Review of student materials	
9	3/11/25	NMPT Posters - Review of student materials	Attend Rehab Seminar 3/12
10	3/18/25	NO CLASS – SPRING BREAK	
11	3/25/25	NMPT Symposium – Pitching your poster	Attend NMPT Symposium 3/27-3/28
12	4/1/25	Final Presentations	
13	4/8/25	Final Presentations	Attend Rehab Seminar 4/9
14	4/15/25	Final Presentations	
15	4/22/25	Final Presentations	Attend Rehab Seminar 4/23
16	4/29/25	Final Presentations	

### Course Materials and Technology

Desktop, laptop, or tablet will be required to create presentation posters. Laptop computers are permitted for taking notes. However, personal internet use (e.g. email) is not permitted during class.

For technical support for this class, please contact the UF Help Desk at:

- [helpdesk@ufl.edu](mailto:helpdesk@ufl.edu)
- (352) 392-HELP - select option 2
- <https://helpdesk.ufl.edu/>

### Additional Academic Resources

- [Career Connections Center](#): Reitz Union Suite 1300, 352-392-1601. Career assistance and counseling services.
- [Library Support](#): Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.
- [Teaching Center](#): Broward Hall, 352-392-2010 or to make an appointment 352- 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.

- [Writing Studio](#): 2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.
- Student Complaints On-Campus: [Visit the Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code webpage for more information.](#)
- On-Line Students Complaints: [View the Distance Learning Student Complaint Process](#)
- Enrollment Management Complaints (Registrar, Financial Aid, Admissions): [View the Student Complaint Procedure webpage for more information.](#)

## ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

### Assignments

[This section should include a detailed description of each assignment. Make sure you include the total points possible for each assignment and instructions on how students submit the assignment.]

### Grading

Requirement	Due date	Total
Final Presentation	Varies based on assigned date	20%
Class Participation and Rehab Science Seminar and NMPT Symposium Attendance	Varies based on scheduled seminars (see listed dates under <i>Description of Course Content</i> )	80%

### Grading

The grade for the course will be based on the following criteria:

1. **Class participation (80%)**: includes contribution to discussion; demonstration of preparation for class by understanding of course readings through discussion and active inquiry; ability to respond to questions; integration of current readings with experience, background, and past readings; advances the discussion.
2. **Poster or oral presentation (20%)**: As assigned.

Percentage Earned	Letter Grade
93-100	A
90-92	A-
87-89	B+
83-86	B
80-82	B-
77-79	C+
73-76	C
70-72	C-
67-69	D+
63-66	D
60-62	D-
Below 60	E

Please be aware that a C- is not an acceptable grade for graduate students. The GPA for graduate students must be 3.0 based on 5000 level courses and above to graduate. A grade of C counts toward a graduate degree only if based on credits in courses numbered 5000 or higher that have been earned with a B+ or higher.

<b>Letter Grade</b>	<b>Grade Points</b>
A	4.0
A-	3.67
B+	3.33
B	3.0
B-	2.67
C+	2.33
C	2.0
C-	1.67
D+	1.33
D	1.0
D-	0.67
E	0.0
WF	0.0
I	0.0
NG	0.0
S-U	0.0

More information on UF grading policy may be found at:  
<https://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/graduate/regulations/#Grades>

### **Exam Policy**

Students will present NMPT Posters orally during assigned class time and feedback will be given by the course instructor. Final posters will be presented based on feedback during class following the NMPT Symposium.

### **Policy Related to Make Up Exams or Other Work**

Late submissions: Assignments must be submitted by the deadline. Late assignments will be graded at the discretion of the instructors. If graded, late assignments will receive a maximum grade of B.

Make up work: Not permitted unless a documented excuse is provided. Coordination in advance with instructor for make-up work is required whenever possible.

Please note: Any requests for make-ups due to technical issues MUST be accompanied by the ticket number received from LSS when the problem was reported to them. The ticket number will document the time and date of the problem. You MUST e-mail me within 24 hours of the technical difficulty if you wish to request a make-up.

### **Policy Related to Required Class Attendance**

Attendance is mandatory. Please contact the instructor as soon as possible if you are unable to attend class for any reason. Personal issues with respect to class attendance or fulfillment of course requirements will be handled on an individual basis. If students arrive late (defined as any time after the published start time of the seminar or class) without prior notice to the instructors, they will not be permitted to participate in the assignment and therefore will receive a zero. If the student has an emergency, the instructor can be notified via email in advance of the class.

The Rehabilitation Science program abides by the UF Attendance Policy. Excused absences must be consistent with university policies in the Graduate Catalog:

<https://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/graduate/regulations/>

## STUDENT EXPECTATIONS, ROLES, AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR INPUT

### Expectations Regarding Course Behavior

Professional behavior is expected and is exemplified by:

- Attendance to all classes
- Timeliness
- Attentiveness
- Respectful and polite interaction with peers and instructors
- Active learning as demonstrated by questions and discussions
- Professionalism

### Communications Guidelines

Students may contact the instructor via email. All communication should be professional in nature with both the instructor and fellow students. <https://teach.ufl.edu/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/NetiquetteGuideforOnlineCourses.docx>

### Academic Integrity

Students are expected to act in accordance with the University of Florida policy on academic integrity. As a student at the University of Florida, you have committed yourself to uphold the Honor Code, which includes the following pledge:

**“We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.”**

You are expected to exhibit behavior consistent with this commitment to the UF academic community, and on all work submitted for credit at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied:

**“On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.”**

It is your individual responsibility to know and comply with all university policies and procedures regarding academic integrity and the Student Honor Code. Violations of the Honor Code at the University of Florida will not be tolerated. Violations will be reported to the Dean of Students Office for consideration of disciplinary action. For additional information regarding Academic Integrity, please see Student Conduct and Honor Code or the Graduate Student Handbook for additional details:

<https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>

<https://graduateschool.ufl.edu/work/handbook/>

Please remember cheating, lying, misrepresentation, or plagiarism in any form is unacceptable and inexcusable behavior.

### Recording Within the Course

Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor.

A “class lecture” is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and delivered by any instructor hired or appointed by the University, or by a guest instructor, as part of a University of Florida course. A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or lecturer during a class session.

Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To “publish” means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or

uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third-party note/tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code.

### **Policy Related to Guests Attending Class**

Only registered students are permitted to attend class. However, we recognize that students who are caretakers may face occasional unexpected challenges creating attendance barriers. Therefore, by exception, a department chair or his or her designee (e.g., instructors) may grant a student permission to bring a guest(s) for a total of two class sessions per semester. This is two sessions total across all courses. No further extensions will be granted. Please note that guests are **not** permitted to attend either cadaver or wet labs. Students are responsible for course material regardless of attendance. For additional information, please review the Classroom Guests of Students policy in its entirety. Link to full policy: <https://phhp.ufl.edu/policy-classroom-guests-of-students/>

### **Online Faculty Course Evaluation Process**

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

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## **SUPPORT SERVICES**

### **Accommodations for Students with Disabilities**

If you require classroom accommodation because of a disability, it is strongly recommended you register with the Dean of Students Office <http://www.dso.ufl.edu> within the first week of class or as soon as you believe you might be eligible for accommodations. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation of accommodations to you, which you must then give to me as the instructor of the course to receive accommodations. Please do this as soon as possible after you receive the letter. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester. The College is committed to providing reasonable accommodations to assist students in their coursework.

### **Counseling and Student Health**

Students sometimes experience stress from academic expectations and/or personal and interpersonal issues that may interfere with their academic performance. If you find yourself facing issues that have the potential to or are already negatively affecting your coursework, you are encouraged to talk with an instructor and/or seek help through University resources available to you.

- *U Matter, We Care*: If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto:umatter@ufl.edu), 352-392-1575, or visit [U Matter, We Care website](#) to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.
- *Counseling and Wellness Center*: [Visit the Counseling and Wellness Center website](#) or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.
- *Student Health Care Center*: Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or visit the [Student Health Care Center website](#).
- *University Police Department*: Visit [UF Police Department website](#) or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).
- *UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center*: For immediate medical care call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; Visit the [UF Health Emergency Room and Trauma Center website](#).
- *GatorWell Health Promotion Services*: For prevention services focused on optimal wellbeing, including Wellness Coaching for Academic Success, visit the [GatorWell website](#) or call 352-2734450.

Do not wait until you reach a crisis to come in and talk with us. We have helped many students through stressful situations impacting their academic performance. You are not alone so do not be afraid to ask for assistance.

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## **Inclusive Learning Environment**

Public health and health professions are based on the belief in human dignity and on respect for the individual. As we share our personal beliefs inside or outside of the classroom, it is always with the understanding that we value and respect diversity of background, experience, and opinion, where every individual feels valued. We believe in, and promote, openness and tolerance of differences in ethnicity and culture, and we respect differing personal, spiritual, religious and political values. We further believe that celebrating such diversity enriches the quality of the educational experiences we provide our students and enhances our own personal and professional relationships. We embrace The University of Florida's Non-Discrimination Policy, which reads, "The University shall actively promote equal opportunity policies and practices conforming to laws against discrimination. The University is committed to non-discrimination with respect to race, creed, color, religion, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, marital status, national origin, political opinions or affiliations, genetic information and veteran status as protected under the Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act."

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