**BIOL 685**

**INTERNSHIP IN BIOLOGY INSTRUCTION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Professor:</th>
<th>Andrew Lowe</th>
<th>Office</th>
<th>SCI 314A</th>
<th>Office Hours</th>
<th>TBA</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Time:</strong></td>
<td>Friday 09:00-10:15 am (first week of classes), then TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Location:</strong></td>
<td>SCI 1, 310</td>
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**Course Objectives:**

1. To assist graduate students in becoming effective classroom teachers and understanding the scholarship of teaching in higher education.
2. To introduce graduate students to several aspects of teaching through the study of teaching and learning theories.
3. To apply selected aspects of those theories to the planning and implementation of the laboratory teaching experience.
4. To identify effective strategies and instructional designs for facilitating student learning in an interactive laboratory environment.

**Course Goals:**

This course is designed for graduate students concurrently appointed a TA position as a biology laboratory instructor (GES 102, BIOL 210, BIOL 211). The course material will prepare you teach lower division labs and you will be expected to know and understand the laboratory exercises thoroughly prior to each week’s lab activity. Whether your future career plans are to teach science at some level, or if this will be your only teaching experience, the expectations are the same. You have a responsibility to the students to do the best job you are capable of, and this will involve a lot of hard work and an understanding of a number of topics and concepts on human learning and science pedagogy.

Whether this will be your first experience instructing a classroom, or you’ve had enough experience to feel comfortable in a teaching environment, this course will assist you to prepare and overcome some anxiety and preconceived expectations. Teaching is not necessarily intuitive. Effective teachers learn from experience in the classroom and continuously strive to improve throughout their teaching careers. By completing courses and earning degrees (of any level) in a scientific discipline does not automatically qualify that individual as a teaching expert in their field. Biology 685 will begin your training in science pedagogy and attempt to coordinate and integrate this into your teaching experience in GES 102, BIOL 210, or BIOL 211.

**Evaluation/Grading Criteria:**

This course is specifically designed to expose graduate students to science pedagogy and train those who will serve as Teaching Assistants in the Biological Sciences Department. The faculty consider this a professional position, therefore, evaluation will not be based upon exams, term papers, etc, but upon criteria defined by the responsibilities of the position. These criteria include:

1. Class preparation (syllabus to complete understanding of content, materials, and equipment)
2. Classroom management (allotted time to discipline and policies)
3. Classroom communication (teaching communication to effective use of technology)
4. Assessment and record keeping (objectivity and the assigning of grades)