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Nutrition Seminar 2009
Thursdays 3.55-5.15pm
Davison 216

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|---------------------|-------------|--------------------------|--|
| 1. | 22 January | Intro/Ethics in research | |
| 2. | 29 January | Scientific Fraud | |
| 3. | 5 February | Caloric Density | (homework 1 distributed) |
| 4. | 12 February | DRIs/Healthy Eating | |
| 5. | 19 February | Fetal Programming | (homework 1 due, homework 2 distributed) |
| 6. | 26 February | Caloric restriction | |
| 7. | 5 March | TBA | (homework 2 due, homework 3 distributed) |
| 8. | 12 March | O mics | |
| SPRING BREAK | | | |
| 9. | 26 March | You choose | (homework 3 due) |
| 10. | 2 April | Your presentations | |
| 11. | 9 April | Your presentations | |
| 12. | 16 April | Your presentations | |
| 13. | 23 April | Your presentations | |
| 14. | 30 April | Outro | |

Grades:

Homeworks (3 x 10 points each)*	30 points
Participation	30 points
Final presentation	20 points
Final paper (due by 5pm Monday May 4 th)*	20 points

Homeworks are due (via email) by the beginning of class (3.55pm) on the day indicated

*1 point deducted per day late

Note: The Beaudette/Thompson Lecture and a symposium of the New Jersey Obesity Group (NJOG) is to be held on the morning of Friday March 13th.

The purpose of this class is to let you relax a little from those classes that involve cramming your brain full of facts, and to let you develop your own ideas. The focus is on research in the nutritional sciences, we can (and will) consider everything from molecular biology through clinical nutrition to population studies. I have some ideas and topics to get us going but you may suggest any topic and during most class periods there will be time for open discussion of things that have cropped up that week. There are a number of subjects-issues that I want to discuss but for many of these the discussion can focus on almost any research topic, for example the use of experimental animals in research can be discussed whenever we consider a research paper based on such research or if one of you comes in with a article on cloning T. Rex that you found in the *National Enquirer*. Most of the material will consist of research papers (not all will be good ones) but I also have some other material, including case based problems, if needed. At the end of the course you should have more understanding of how scientific research (broadly in nutrition) works, what it can and cannot tell you, and how to begin to evaluate the quality of papers (experiments, results and interpretations).

The course is not an easy A, but not a difficult one either. You are expected to do some work, although this should not be too difficult you will be expected to complete it in a timely manner. Furthermore, for most of the grading in this course there is no right answer. You will be graded on your participation, your homework (again no right answer), and a final project (on a topic of your choosing) that you will present to the class (10 minutes) and submit a **final written report (5 pages double spaced, not including figures or references, maximum)**. There is no final exam and each homework will be distributed at least two weeks prior to the due date, this means that you will have one class where you may ask questions regarding the homework (i.e. read the homework during the first week and complete the homework during the second week).

A word on **PLAGIARISM**. If you hand in work that is not your own, that is copied without suitable acknowledgement of the source, or in any other way is dishonest, you will be reported to the university. I serve as an Academic Integrity Facilitator for SEBS and hence I know all the rules and possible punishments. I have zero tolerance for cheating of any kind. It destroys the public trust in science and education, and defeats the whole point of attending a class such as this. Your ideas, opinions and commitment to learn, are far more important than any "fact".

To reiterate; although I have topics selected for some of the classes I do not care if we end up never discussing these topics but in their place discuss topics of more interest to you. This is class where you can decide where to go, what to discuss and what your opinions are. I am just here to keep everything at a decent academic standard.

WEEK 1

Read the article "An Unwelcome Discovery" (*New York Times Sunday Magazine*, Oct 22, 2006) and be prepared to discuss.