Important Note:
- The above is a tentative guideline. Please check the website for current deadlines and up-to-date scheduling information throughout the semester.

Learning-outcome goals
This course is the sequel to BC563 (Molecular Genetics), in which you learned many of the fundamentals of the transcription process. However, because your previous courses are oriented toward conveying a significant number of facts, the methods and approaches used to obtain those facts are often not covered in much detail. This graduate level course is designed to fill in the gaps in your...
knowledge. As future scientists it is essential that you learn how to design experimental approaches to ask questions of nature and how to interpret the answers you obtain. In addition, you must learn how to effectively read the primary literature so that you can decide for yourself with regards to conflicting views. Papers have been chosen for their exposition of methods, or classical experimental design, or specific approaches. Often times these papers will not be published this year. Although this course will expand upon your knowledge of the primary literature in the field of transcriptional processes, it will not be encyclopedic in its coverage of the field.

**Mode of instruction**
To accomplish these objectives, this course is a mixture of lectures, and student-lead discussions of the primary literature.

**Reading assignments:**
Self-study assignments are designed to prepare you for class lectures. Quizzes may be given in the form of clicker questions on those materials.

For the primary literature assignments, each student will be assigned one figure from each paper, and will lead the discussion on that figure in class. The emphasis of the discussion should be on the hypotheses tested, and the methods utilized. Please be expected to provide additional information than that provided solely in the manuscript.

**Student Evaluation:**
There will be one in class exam. There will also be short in class problem solving and take home problem sets. These problems will draw on your knowledge from the entire class and we will discuss the solutions to the problems in class. The students will also be evaluated by their peers on their performance in leading the discussion on their assigned figures as well as participating in the discussion of the other figures. The critiques of each paper will be graded as well.