BIOS 301
Graduate Environment of Support

Instructor: Ayodele Thomas, PhD
Associate Dean for Graduate & Career Education and Diversity, School of Medicine

Fall 2021

Tuesdays, 11:30am – 1:00pm
Location: Littlefield 103

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COURSE DESCRIPTION
The objective of this course is to assist graduate students adapting to the Stanford environment in terms of academic, psychosocial, financial, and career issues and how these relate to diversity, inclusion & belonging, resources, and policies. Presentations will be made by guest faculty, advanced graduate students and key campus administrators.

GRADING
One unit grade will be satisfactory/no credit. Attendance and participation in all class meetings is expected. Students who have exhausted their allotted credits may audit the course by e-mailing the instructor.

As you know, we are engaged in this class under extraordinary circumstances and I want to acknowledge the challenges of the current context. This version of my course, and the circumstances it is offered under, are going to require adaptability, understanding, and help from all of us—I thank you in advance for all that you do. Please do feel free to reach out to me about how the class is going at any time by email or we can schedule a meeting. Also, I want to especially call attention to the support Stanford offers through Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS), available 24 hours a day at 650-723-3785.

DATE WEEK TOPIC
Sept 21 1 Introduction
Sept 28 2 Graduate student panel
Oct 5 3 Managing advisor/advisee relationships
Oct 12 4 Making the most of campus resources for graduate students
Ken Hsu, Assistant Vice Provost of Student Affairs & Director, Graduate Life Office (GLO)
Laurette Beeson, Assoc. Director & Assistant Dean, GLO; and other Assist. Deans, GLO
Oct 19 5 Learning How to Write for a graduate school audience
Zandra L. Jordan, PhD, Director, Hume Center for Writing and Speaking
Oct 26 6 Teaching & Funding
Amanda Modell, Associate Director, Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL)
Jae Chung, Associate Director, Student Learning Programs, CTL
TBD, Financial Aid Office
Nov 2 7 Faculty Panel
Nov 9 8 Using your Ph.D. to pursue a career (need to confirm)
Anika Green, Assist. Vice Provost for Grad Education & Director, DARE Doctoral Fellowship
Urmila Venkatesh, Assistant Dean of Career Education, and Associate Director, Career Communities - PhDs and Postdocs, BEAM, Stanford Career Education
Nov 16 9 There is life outside of research
Nov 23 Thanksgiving Week
Nov 30 10 Professional Development Planning for Graduate Students

Students with documented disabilities: Students who may need an academic accommodation based on the impact of a disability must initiate the request with the Student Disability Resource Center (SDRC) located within the Office of Accessible Education (OAE). SDRC staff will evaluate the request with required documentation, recommend reasonable accommodations, and prepare an Accommodation Letter for faculty dated in the current quarter in which the request is being made. Students should contact the SDRC as soon as possible since timely notice is needed to coordinate accommodations.