

Biology & Society

A course focused on students developing an appreciation for the ways in which institutions, practices, and ways of thinking associated with contemporary biology are specific to a particular place and time, and have changed over time. Students will learn to identify and state the significance of key people and events in the recent history of biology, while also understanding key theoretical frameworks for describing interactions between biology and society and apply these frameworks to new empirical cases. Students will learn to identify and evaluate the strength of the arguments and evidence used in an academic paper and how to extrapolate complex arguments to new contexts and how new information might change the argument. This course will utilize case-based studies, and students will keep a portfolio of understanding which includes reflections, inquiries, and evidence sections.

- **Goals & Mission Statement:**
 - Learn how institutions, practices, and ways of thinking around biology have changed overtime
 - Identify key individuals and events in the history of biology and resulting policies
 - Understand key frameworks for describing interactions between biology and society
- **Format:**
 - Utilize case-based studies
 - Portfolio of understanding (reflections, inquiries, evidence sections)
- **Course level:**
 - PhD students and postdocs in life sciences disciplines
- **Required Core Competencies:**
 - Interest in biology, science policy and broader societal issues