Syllabus INBRE Professional Development Series

Course Supervisor: Dr. J-P. Bingham
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Meeting location: Zoom 9:30 – 10:15 am, Tues. INBRE Summer Cycle (June, July, August)

Course description: Life as an undergraduate student is difficult at the best of times, but planning, preparation and possibly listening to some ‘old-hands’ can potentially make a big difference to this journey of enlightenment and education. This summer seminar series addresses the basics for becoming a successful graduate student or professional, being prepared for the present and specifically for the future!

Course goals: This is an interactive seminar series, which requires student discussion and the progressive examination and reflection of preparation to move forward into life after undergraduate. Q & A session at the end of each presentation.

Students will explore:
(i) The requirements of their degree(s),
(ii) The skills regarding the seeking of employment/graduate education,
(iii) C.V. writing – (feedback will be provided via appointment with INBRE office hours)
(iv) Practicing skills in presentation of data, and
(v) An introduction into job hunting.

Students will also become familiar with the necessities and considerations conducting research.

Format: Students will be provided with a weekly seminar both from Dr. Bingham & guest lecturers. Students will demonstrate progress in their professional development and understanding/application of series content.

Topics that will be covered range from:

- CV Writing – Lets polish what you have!
- Formal ‘impact’ – Presentations, interviews, meetings and symposia/conference orals
- Poster Presentations – How to get noticed
- Research statement – What interests you?
- What’s in a degree – The requirements a MS (plan A or B) and PhD. degree
- Career development and planning – The five-yr. plan
- Graduate School, Professional School – What’s it all about?
- Cover letters and finding that job – Due diligence!
- Negation skills – What is the best for you?
- Becoming a Professional – How to get there and beyond

Materials will be provided throughout the course and it is suggested you keep these in a central document – Dossier, for future reference