

“Emerging Concepts in Environmental Health Science”

Environmental Obesogens

Course Leaders:

Michele La Merrill (mlamerrill@ucdavis.edu)

Ameer Taha (ataha@ucdavis.edu)

Class Location/Time: room 3002 VM3B, Tuesdays 10:00-12:00 PM

Course Goal: The overall goal is to teach trainees how to critically examine a particular problem and how to interact with colleagues from different disciplines to develop strategies for effectively communicating with each other to address a complex environmental health issue. This course will focus on obesogens and how they promote obesity by molecular action in tissues relevant to the development of obesity. This is a large topic, so we have narrowed it to bisphenol A because among obesogens, bisphenol A has a reasonable body of supporting mechanistic evidence across the relevant tissues.

Course Format: Students will participate in discussion of the chosen topic, including basic concepts, current state of knowledge, what are the outstanding questions or problems, what are the controversial aspects and general considerations and what is the scientific translational aspect and application.

A team-based learning approach will be used for this course, with an emphasis on preparation outside of class and application of knowledge during discussions. Depending upon the number of participants and weekly topics, students will be organized into diverse teams of 2-3 members.

Students will distribute the knowledge they have learned in the course. Dissemination will include the following methods - 1) engaging in social media (e.g. Twitter and Facebook); 2) developing materials for community outreach activities; and 3) working with Dr. Pam Lein to put the outreach materials into a short publication.

Course Registration: Trainees will officially register for and receive 3 units of credit for the course during the Fall 2019 quarter. Please contact Susan Kancir (sgkancir@ucdavis.edu) for a PTA# if you have time conflicts preventing you from registering for the course.

Course Grading: Grading will be S/U. Students are expected to participate in weekly discussions and preparation of outreach materials. There will not be a final exam.

Scheduled Topics

June 25*	Introduction to obesogens
July 2	BPA & adipose
July 9	BPA & nervous system
July 16	BPA & liver
July 23	BPA & skeletal muscle
July 30	Finalizing powerpoint presentations including recommendations for outreach and publication plans

*Note: The first class will consist of course introduction/organization, faculty lectures and assignment of teams/topics