GG610 Student Seminar Syllabus
Instructor: Garrett Apuzen-Ito (gito@hawaii.edu, POST 810)

COURSE OBJECTIVES: Effective communication, whether by writing or speaking, is vital to a huge range of professions, including academics. GG610 will help you develop and hone your skills in preparing, delivering, and addressing questions about a scientific presentation. Talk preparation will help you logically and critically evaluate your work. Your practice in the seminar will help you enhance your abilities to communicate your ideas effectively, to present a logical thought process, to reason critically, and to evaluate presentations of others. Your talks will be professional, compelling, stimulating, and memorable. Finally, you will get to learn about the latest science in SOEST!

STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES: GG610 emphasizes three of the student learning objectives of our MS and Ph.D program.

• Effective and Ethical Practice of the Scientific Method: Graduates are able to (a) construct scientific hypotheses, (b) define and carry out research to evaluate them in a timely manner, (c) analyze and synthesize the results of their research, and (d) derive conclusions that help advance the fields of geology and geophysics. All of this will be done with the highest standards of ethical practice.

• Communicate geological knowledge M.S. graduates are able to effectively communicate about the findings of their research in writing at a level comparable to that of a scientific journal publication, and defend it orally to the satisfaction of a scientific audience. They are also able to communicate orally about Geology though seminar or conference presentations.

• Employability/Contributions Post-Graduation Graduates have acquired the knowledge and skills in the profession needed to pursue employment or other activities that contribute to the advancement of the Earth sciences and/or the solutions to societal problems.

MEETING TIMES: GG610 — Friday 1:30-2:20 POST 723

GRADING WILL BE BASED ON:
• In-class talks (50%)
• Abstract (250 word limit) for each talk (15%)
• Constructive evaluations for in-class talks, abstracts, as well as 4 out-of-class talks (20%)
• Effective audience participation (15%)

MODERATOR DUTIES:
• Arrive early to familiarize you and your speaker with the equipment (computer, projector, microphone, pointer, etc)
• Introduce the speaker: engage your audience’s interesting by highlighting the speaker’s background, accomplishments and research activities
• Ensure a technically good presentation: make sure lighting is good, signal the speaker to speak up of necessary, assist with any technical difficulties, etc.
• Support the speaker by staying attentive and being interested
• Receive and manage questions. Prepared with a couple of your own questions in case the audience questions run thin
• Thank the speaker and replace equipment.

AUDIENCE DUTIES:
• Be attentive
• Identify strengths and weaknesses about the content and delivery
• Ask interesting, insightful, and cutting questions.

REFERENCES FOR GIVING GREAT SCIENTIFIC TALKS
• Preparing Scientific Presentations (PDF version)
• Preparing and Delivering a Talk (handout)
• Ten Secrets to Giving a Good Scientific Talk
• How Not To Give a Scientific Talk

TALK EVALUATION FORM